



SOCCE ACTION

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SCENA: 14

VIVA ITALIA: 10

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ
ΣΕΛΙΣ: 14

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Vic, NSW get set for new leagues

The NSW board of management is expected to ratify a plan this week to relegate the clubs that finish in the last four places in State League this season while the Victorian Soccer Federation is gearing itself to run a 16-team State League in 1987.

That's the reaction of the big two of Australian soccer to the NSW decision to run a 14-team one-league competition next season.

The NSL's move will send Green Gully back to the Victorian State League, Canterbury, Canberra, Inter Monaro and Newcastle Rosebud look certain to play in the NSW State League next season and could be joined by APIA, St George and Wollongong. However, chances are that just one of the latter group will be in State League ranks next year.

The 14 teams for the 1987 NSL will be chosen according to a formula which awards points for past performances, placings in this year's competition and crowd support. APIA, St George and Wollongong are hovering close to the cut-off mark.

Should the 1987 NSW State League include Canterbury, Canberra, Inter Monaro, Newcastle Rosebud and either APIA, St George or Wollongong that would leave it with a 13-team competition. However, the NSW federation is forced, under its constitution, to promote at least one club and relegate at least one club. Faced with a 13-team league, the NSW bosses simply can include the Second Division champion in what will become a 14-team

competition currently there are 12 teams in the NSW State League.

But having to include the Second Division champion could cause problems if more than just one of the trio involving APIA, St George and Wollongong get kicked out of the NSL.

Would the NSW bosses go for a 14-team league? Would more than four clubs currently in State League be relegated to allow for a 12-team competition including all the clubs returning from the NSL fold?

These questions will remain unanswered for some time.

However, the picture is a little clearer in Victoria. It's almost certain that the VSF won't be running a Super League next year.

Even if George Cross and Melbourne Croatia join Green Gully in the 1987 Victorian State League, the VSF bosses believe that there would be nothing particularly super about a competition involving those three and say the top seven State League clubs of 1986.

And that's the current policy of the VSF. If it forms a Super League it will be a 10-team competition including at least

five or six of the best clubs in the state and as far as the VSF is concerned, best means Melbourne-based NSL clubs.

Let's say that just Green Gully returns to the VSF fold next year. The VSF is adamant that its two-up, two-down system of promotion and relegation will be strictly adhered to. That then would leave us with 15 teams in State League.

The VSF then will promote the third-placed Victorian League First Division club. That will have a flow-on effect throughout Victorian League and Provisional League ranks with Fourth Division of the Provisional League possibly comprising no more than number of clubs. However, welcome to apply for admission to Fourth Division of the Provisional Leagues, providing a vacancy exists.

It's important to realize that whether just one or even two clubs drop out of the NSL and join State League, no Victorian League or Provisional League club will be disadvantaged. Indeed, if only Green Gully drops out of the NSL many Victorian League and Provisional League clubs will benefit.

That's the current policy of the VSF. If it forms a Super League it will be a 10-team competition including at least

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• Perry Mur

CRASH!

Springvale City goalkeeper Perry Mur could have been killed in the 42nd minute of last Sunday's Victorian State League match against St Albans Dinamo.

Mur back-pedaled to tip the ball over the bar and ended up clutching the net. To everyone's amazement, one of the goalposts snapped about three-quarters of the way up. Down came the crossbar and the other post leaving Mur on the ground tangled in the net.

The crossbar had missed Mur's head by centimetres.

Referee Bernie Upjohn halted the match. Springvale officials worked feverishly to erect new goals and the game eventually resumed.

Perry's older brother, Peter, jumped up at the crossbar over 10 years ago during a league game between Springvale and Brighton and the bar snapped in half. That time he had to be abandoned because there were no replacement posts and crossbar available.

CRAIG MACKENZIE



• Gordon Banks

BANKS

Gordon Banks, England's greatest goalkeeper, will visit Melbourne in November to help promote the Qantas World Cup for players representing their countries of origin.

Tournament organiser Tony Kennedy signed up Banks during a recent visit to England.

And former England international Tom Finney has agreed to attend the 1987 Qantas World Cup.

Banks, 48, was capped 73 times from 1963 to 1972.

Kennedy wants to hear from clubs wishing to engage Banks for sportsmen's nights or special appearances. He can be contacted on (03) 763 7542.

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Coach Les Scheinfug is entitled to gloat over the success of his national youth team.

He remembers ruefully being sacked by the ASF in March 1984, even though his senior Soccer team had won the Merlion Cup in Singapore, and he had guided the youth team in the 1981 and 1982 World Youth Championships.

After a two-year exile, he returned with a roar last week, guiding the youth Socceros to victories of 3-0 and 6-1 against Czechoslovakia's youth team, before they lost 0-4 in Newcastle in the final match.

At the time of his sacking in 1984, Scheinfug said: "Since coming back from Singapore where we won the Merlion Cup, I've been in hospital on numerous occasions, trying to get knives removed from my back. It's time people have made the wrong decisions for 10 years had their mistakes looked at very closely. We're back to the bad old days of post 1974. We're self-destructing again."

ASF president Sir Arthur George said at the time that Arok, who was appointed to replace Scheinfug, had more European experience than Scheinfug.

GLOAT

Arok however, strongly supported Scheinfug's appointment as youth coach earlier this year, and between them they will determine Australia's fate in the 1986 World Youth Championship. The 1984 Olympic Games and the 1990 World Cup.

If the 3-0 and 6-1 victories over Czechoslovakia are any guide, Australia may have its best youth team yet.

This team has more speed than previous sides; everyone is willing to shoot and there are always players following up shots that are

blocked. The players are clicking as a unit and they're all keen to prove themselves," Scheinfug said.

Explaining his tactics, Scheinfug said: "The Czechs are extremely skilful, so you have to prevent them from building up their game from the back. To that end our two strikers, Edwards and Scott Ollerenshaw, hassled the opposing centre-backs, and we also tried to stop the Czech full backs from coming forward."

See match reports, page 7



• Les Scheinfug

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PROMOTION GALORE!

Let's look at the revamped league competition in Victoria for 1987, making the following assumptions:

That the Green Gully is relegated from the NSL and joins a 16-team State League competition, that the VSF makes Victorian and Provisional leagues 14-team competition, promoting to do so. These tables are based on standings before last weekend's round of matches.

STATE LEAGUE

Green Gully, Springfield City, Cranley, Box Hill, St Albans, Dynamos, Frankston Pines, Fawkner, Western Suburbs, Merivale Falcons, Thomastown, Caulfield, Werribee, Ringwood, Willemina, Broadmeadows, Alkimos, Nunawading City.

VICTORIAN LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

Melbourne-Hungaria, Polonia, SM-Mordialloc, Sun-

bury, Doncaster Royers, Altona Gate, Werribee, Knox City, North Dandenong, Richmond, Albion, Tuk Guco, Bulleen, Dandenong, Cheltenham, Essendon Tristina.

SECOND DIVISION

Doveton, Mornington, North Geelong, Royal Richmond, Waverley City, Prahran Celtic, Hamlyn Rangers, Eltham, Ringwood United, Sandringham, Altona City, Moorabbin, Springvale United, Yallourn.

THIRD DIVISION

Keilor, Austria, Merri, Park Rangers, Resnova, Clifton Hill, Bell Park, Mooroobbin, Ferntree Gully, Yarraville, Corio, Geelong, Port Melbourne, West Brunswick, Clarinda, Boronia.

FOURTH DIVISION

Prahran, Coburg, Howthorn, Hellidon Park, Langwarrin, Keyborough, East Brunswick, Karingal United, Heidelberg-Bundesra, Lalor, United, Seaford United, Geelong United, Pascoe Vale, Ivanhoe City.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

Brighton, Croydon, Geelong, Glenelg, Hampton, Ivanhoe, Keilor, Malvern, Maribyrnong, Northcote, Preston, East Geelong, Chelsea, North Sunshine, Melton, Regent.

SECOND DIVISION

Berwick City, Wantirna, Massell Rangers, Monash University, Cranbourne, Forest Hill, Brunswick West, Dingey United, Mentone, Westmeadows, Balmain United, South Melbourne, Sandringham.

THIRD DIVISION

South Dandenong, University of Melbourne, Ascot Vale City, Burwood United, Meadow Park, Richmond United, Port United, Mitcham, Altona United, St Kilda, Waverley United, Northern United, Lalor, Kensington United.

FOURTH DIVISION

Mulgrave, Fitzroy, Ringwood Rovers, Balacala, Mulgrave, Skye Rivers, Ringers, Carrum United, Lyndale United, Debney Park. Three vacancies exist.

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Fawkner loses Talajic but wins the final

FAWKNER 2 (Xuereb 15th, Emmanuel 18th) **MOOROOLBARK 1**, Victorian Technical Schools final at Albert Park, Ground No. 7.

Despite the sending off of Captain Mark Talajic, the Melbourne Croatian defender, Fawkner Technical School proved a worthy winner of the 1986 Victorian championship.

Talajic was sent off after just 20 minutes for dissent in a game marred by a series of fouls but the 10 men of Fawkner already had taken a firm grip on the championship trophy.

Two goals within three minutes had seen that. The scorers were Chris Xuereb and Sam Emmanuel.

The second half saw some tremendous end-to-end soccer with both goals often going close to scoring.

But Mooroolbark's wall of injury time to score a consolation goal from the penalty spot.

Fawkner's triumph was the culmination of four months of hard work by coach Bill Panas and his boys. Fawkner's record in the competition was: won 11, drawn 0, lost 1, goals for: 63; goals against: 11.

It is worth noting that only half of Panas's squad plays soccer outside school and four of the regulars play Australian Rules Football on weekends.

Despite being sent off, Talajic adds his name to a distinguished group of captains who have led their schools to success in this competition, a most notable being Socceroo star Oscar Crino.



Fluminense loses shoot-out

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Brazilian champion Fluminense mesmerised Manchester United with sheer skill but lost on a penalty shoot out after a pre-season charity match had ended in a scoreless draw in Manchester last week.

Parading Paraguayan international midfielder Romerito, one of stars of the World Cup in Mexico — Fluminense treated 32,000 fans to a stylish display but found Manchester goalkeeper Chris Turner inspired.

Turner is expected to keep England's third-choice keeper Gary Bailey out of the United side next season.

After Washington had narrowly missed with a 20th minute header, Romerito carved out an opening for striker Tato but his close-range shot was pushed onto the bar by Turner.

United also had chances, the best of which was a close-range shot by Frank Stapleton in the opening minute which was saved by Fausto Victor.

In the closing minutes of regulation time United defender Paul McGrath struck a post but the match was goalless.

Skill has been neglected in the preparation of Czechoslovakia's youth team, according to Czech national coach Josef Masopust.

While the young Czechs were being hammered 6-1 by Australia's youth team in Brisbane, Masopust said in Adelaide:

"Something has gone wrong with the boys' preparation. There has been too much emphasis on fitness, and skill has been forgotten."

Last month, I was at an international coaching seminar in Berlin where everyone emphasised the importance of concentrating on skill training, and working with the ball, but I think that hasn't been done with youth players."

Masopust, a former European Footballer of the Year and voted best player of the 1982 World Cup in Chile, spoke also about Dragoslav Sekularac, Czech players who have played for Australian clubs and Willie Schroif's mistakes in Chile.



• Joe Venglos (seated, right) and Schroif, with Slovan Bratislava, from left: Venzel, Horvath, Popluhar, Urban, Fillo, Schroif. Front: Adamec, Cvetler, Jokl, Pisarik, Hrdlicka, Venglos.



• Fawkner Technical School, 1986 Victorian champions. Back row: Mark Vassallo, Elvis Marijan, Ivica Glavic, Roger Strohecker, Frank Hatzimihalis, Mark Talajic, Chris Xuereb, Bill Panas (coach). Front row: Goran Bozinovski, Sam Emmanuel, Stephen Radisovich, S. Pannunzio, Fabio Fortuna, Renato Bistic, B. Pannunzio.

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with Melbourne club Slavia in the sixties, from left, standing: Cook, Schroif, High, Shepherd, McCorguadale; Front: James, Savage, Randles, Reed, Jurecki.
• RIGHT: Josef Masopust in his prime at Dukla Prague.



got in his eyes. Then he went for a cross by Amarillo, throwing himself towards the near post. Goalkeepers do not always get the ball in that situation, but Willie did, and the ball went behind him."

Schroif later played for Slavia in Melbourne, and also represented Victoria. "He was still playing two years ago, at the age of 50, with a small team," Masopust said. "Now he is on the central committee of sport in Bratislava."

Joe Venglos, who coached Prague in Sydney and had charge of the Socceroos for a series against Scotland in 1987, is in his third year in Malaysia. "He was sent there by FA to help develop the game," Masopust said. "He also is in charge of the national team, and acts as an adviser to one of the clubs."

Former Czech international Tadeus Kraus played for Slavia in the late sixties. He spent three years in Cyprus and now coaches the youth team at Spartak Prague.

We also asked Masopust about some of the Czech stars who toured here with the Czech national team and Slovan Bratislava. That fine forward, Marian Masny, played in the Second Division until last year, and the Capkovic brothers, Jan and Josef, are with Red Star in Bratislava, one as coach and the other as secretary, but Karel Jokl is no longer associated with soccer.

Masopust was sorry not to have seen Sekularac, the former Yugoslav international who has made Footscray JUST one of the finest teams in Australia. "I remember Seki well. He was a great player and a very fine man. I directed the Yugoslav team in the mid-70s. I would love to see him again. Please give him my regards."

Masopust said his present Czech team is not nearly as good as the one that toured in 1980, beating Australia 4-0, 5-0 and drawing 2-2.

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- ★ Separate comp for guys & girls. Mixed teams welcome.

Czechs couldn't take it!

We shut them up
- Hristodoulou

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

The Czechoslovakian youth players had their big mouths shut and although they didn't mind dishing out the rough stuff, they certainly couldn't take it, says Australian youth star Lou Hristodoulou.

"They were real cocky in the first game in Hobart. They kept running around and calling us kangaroos. I think that's just about all they could say in English but it didn't bother us. We soon shut their mouths," said Hristodoulou, the only survivor from Jim Shoulder's team that played in the World Youth Championships in the Soviet Union last year.

"They weren't so cocky up in Brisbane when we thumped them 6-1. In fact they packed it in after we scored our second goal."

Hristodoulou sees marked differences in the playing style and discipline adopted by Shoulder and current youth boss Les Scheinfeld.

Shoulder, according to Hristodoulou, favored a British style of game based on long passing. One of Hristodoulou's team mates in Shoulder's side, Alex Bundalo of APIA, backed up that assessment when interviewed in "Soccer Action" earlier this year. Bundalo said:

"We were supposed to hit the corner flags all the time. We didn't even have to look up, just go bang and aim for the corner flags and the forwards expected to be there every time because they knew what we were doing."

"I didn't like playing like that. It meant that the defenders were just pumping long balls forward and the midfielders didn't get involved enough."

Hristodoulou claims the European style of game favored by Scheinfeld was the key to the young Socceroos' success against the Czechs, who are highly-rated in Europe and used the recently concluded three-match series against Australia to prepare for their coming battle with the Soviets, Romania and Turkey in the European Youth Championships.

"We try to build it up from the back now, which means that the midfielders are involved a lot. We hit long balls if they're on but only rarely. We're playing a game similar to say, West Germany. Under Jim Shoulder we played a British style of game."

The Czechs used two guys up front — a fast guy and a big guy. They punted quite a few long balls forward to try to get the fast guy going but they didn't have much success. I still rate them. I think that they're a very good team. It's just that we're a lot better."

Hristodoulou was used as a right-sided midfielder in a 4-4-2 formation and he didn't have any trouble getting a lot of the ball. In part that was due to the relationship struck in midfield between John Markovski of George Cross and Jason Polak of the Institute of Sport.

Hristodoulou leaves a youth team brimming of confidence after defeating the Czechs in the three-match series which ended in northern NSW last weekend and turns his attention this week to his club duties with Adelaide Hellas and his university studies.

He is in the first year of a science course at Adelaide University and faces an important exam later this week.

Adelaide Hellas also faces an important test in coming weeks to see whether or not it can retain its NSL status.

"We've got the players at Hellas, that's for sure, and we believe in ourselves. We've just had a lot of bad luck this season but we can still make the final 14."

"If we don't I'll be off to either Melbourne or Sydney. I've got to keep playing in the NSL and there's no way I'd join Adelaide City. That's a club that's never appealed to me."



* LOU HRISTODOULOU (back row, second from right), with the Adelaide Hellas team. From left, standing: Allan Scott, Charlie Yankos, Robbie Dunn, Martyn Crook, Graham Honeyman, Hristodoulou, Gary Ward. Front: Brian McLaughlin, Gary Price, John Panagis, Tim Brown, George Konstandopoulos, Chris Manou. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Whingeing comes only from the losers

LES MURRAY

It's hard to believe, but we might just be doing it again. Emasculating ourselves. Taking running steps backwards instead of a short strut forward. Snuffing out progress because factional and club interests are more important than the game.

It was predictable perhaps, but the whine and the whinge from clubs threatened by relegation because their performances on the field have not been good enough, began to pontificate about the future of the league and the game, I do not believe for a moment in their sincerity.

I have heard no eleventh-hour objections from the Sydney Olympics, the Footscrayts, the Juventus, the Sydney Croats.

There is no trembling fear from the teams that are likely to survive about the crippling financial burden the 14-team format will place upon them.

The whining comes, in part, from clubs that survived in the past only by legislation, only because a 24-team competition created room for them and through an artificial prop which in fact did nothing for soccer in their district and precious less in the country.

Poverty

Those who suddenly cry out in opposition to the new format (rather obscenely, I must say, because the league did, democratically, legislate for it early this year) all argue that a national title would still be achieved through a play off system after a maze of winners has been arrived at in the various splinter leagues and divisions around the country.

They miss the point. Soccer in this country, suffering from a poverty of talent and class, is too diluted. There are too many clubs calling on too little talent. It is why \$32,000 was paid for Manis Lamond, a figure thought to be outrageous by many.

Because demand badly outstrips supply!

We might gloat about how Australia is 13th best in the world at youth level and how our young geniuses are being snapped up by European clubs.

sensible step in the right direction.

There is surely no argument that a 14-team league, chosen on playing merit, will not be a stronger league and produce better football. Expensive, yes, but stronger and better.

So we have to decide whether we want expensive good soccer or cheap poor soccer.

And some of us have to decide whether they are in fact soccer fans or merely the wavers of flags.

Cheating

Sure, we all have our clubs, our States and our districts. In my case, it is not unknown that St George Budapest is the club closest to my heart, though I do not give a damn about my State or district.

If St George, at the moment far from having a guaranteed place in next year's league, is relegated, I will retain my interest in them. I would still watch for their results and go and see them whenever I could.

But if they survived by legislation, I would desert them, snub them because in my eyes they would be the beneficiaries of cheating.

Hat-trick heroes

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This week's hat-trick heroes:
1. Tony D'Amato, 11, Frank Kelly, Dryden Robertson, Mani Favero, four goals (Eltham North); Ice Kultesovski, 12 (Altuna Gate Vardar); Peter Filipovic, 14, Martin Milko, 9 (South Parkmore); Daniel Allsop, Michael Separovich, Brett Fenman, Daniel Byrne, Robert Zeegers, John Harrap, Peter Harrap (Monbulk); Kerry Bright, 11 (Boronia Heights Primary School); Miro Stosic, Joseph Didulica, Emil Marinovic, four goals, Ante Skoko (North Geelong); Con Harbs, 11 (South Springvale).



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GREEN GULLY 1 (Ward 15th) HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 1 (Brown 70th) at Green Gully Reserve. Attendance: 987.

GREEN GULLY Denys 6 — Hobert 7, McLeland 6, Grimond 6, Douglas 7 — Carter 6, Cugley 6, Theodopoulos 6, Ward 6, Cannell 5 (B.M.), Cumming 9, Coach: Guy Martin.

HEIDELBERG Ford 8 — Marley 6, Semelidis 7, Ousakas 6, Katsikidis 6 — Pappas 7, Kanekos 6, Valentine 6, Tsolakis 9 — Brown 6, Wilson 6, Coach: Brian Garvey.

Best players for Bricks Flayer of the Year award: 6 (Cumming (GG), 5 Tsolakis (H), 4 Ford (H), 3 Semelidis (H), 2 Pappas (H), 1 Douglas (GG).

BRUNSWICK-JUVENTUS 1 (Durakovic 35th) PRESTON-MAKEDONIA 2 (Smith 25th, Cole penalty 42nd) at Olympic Park. Crowd: about 1500.

JUVENTUS Banovic 6 — Lewis 7, Brown 7, Yzendoorn 7, Campbell 6, Palatides 5, Petersen 7, Cullen 5, Durakovic 6, Ouch 6, 64th min., Patterson 7, Evans 4 (Vesnaver 4, half-time), Coach: Len McKenry.

MAKEDONIA Trajanedes 7 — McLennan 6, Dobson 9, Woodall 8, Opasini 6 (Iloski 6, half-time) — van Egmond 6, Roche 6, Campbell 7, Heys 6 — Smith 8, Cole 6, Coach: Bill Murray.

Best six for Ametco Travel Player of the Year award: 6 (Dobson (Mak), 5 Smith (Mak), 4 Roodhouse (Mak), 3 E. Campbell (Juve), 2 Woodall (Mak), 1 R. Campbell (Mak)).

NSL DETAILS

CANBERRY CITY OLYMPIANS 0 CANTER-BURY 0 at Bruce Stadium, Canberra. Crowd: 692.

CO BERRA Economou 7 — Hartke 6, Dunn 6, Lemmerling 7 (7th), Cart 7, Mazis 9 — Sermanni 8, Hamilton 6, Palacios 7, Bryant 6 (Kurnia 65th) — Phillips 7, Gibson 7, Coach: Steve Bryant.

CANTERBURY Barker 8 — Hantzis 6, Syros 6, Radman 7, Hatzidakis 6, Tsiropoulos 6, Jozic 6, Alouw 6, Zaimi 7, Gospodinov 6, Tsiropoulos 6, Jozic 6, Alouw 6, Zaimi 7.

Best six for Ametco Travel Player of the Year award: 6 (Mazis (C.C.O), 5 Barker (C.M), 4 Sermanni (C.C.O), 3. Zaimi (C.M), 2 Phillips (C.C.O), 1 Cart (C.C.O))

BRISBANE CITY 0 BRISBANE LIONS 1 (Richardson 27th) at Spencer Park. Crowd: about 1200.

Brisbane CITY Harrison 6 — Fabrizio 7, Mengotti 8, Archibald 7, Card 7 — Chapman 6, White 6, Catalano 6, Milosevic 6, Vasquez 6 (half-time) — Cooper 7, Scriggins 6, Coach: Billy Wilkinson.

BRISBANE LIONS Evans 6 — R. Stewart 7, Jackson 8, Liddell 8, Niven 6 — J. Stewart 7, Ogden 8, Anderson 6 —

Wright 7, Richardson 7, Morton 6, Coach: Col Bennett.

Best six for Ametco Travel Player of the Year Award: 6 (Ogden (BL), 5 Mengotti (BL), 4 Jackson (BL), 3 Liddell (BL), 2 Richardson (BL)).

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 2 (MacLaren 14th, Gilder 22nd) ADELAIDE JUVENTUS 0 at Chaplin Reserve. Crowd: 1856.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS Keogh 7 — James 8, Parton 7, Richardson 7, Campbell 7 — Faulkner 7, MacLaren 6, Innes 7, Gospodinov 7, Chapman 7 — Glider 8, Mitten 6, Coach: John Gospodinov.

ADELAIDE JUVENTUS McNamee 6, Shilahabeer 6 (Wilder 81st), Flounders 6, Nyikusuk 6, Tobin 7 — Meita 6, Villar 7, Samrat 6, Vidmar 6 — Mullen 7, Maxwell 5, Coach: Zoran Matic.

Best six for Ametco Travel Best Player Award: 6 (MacLaren (GC), 5 James (GC), Gilder (GC), 3 Parton (GC), 2. Tobin (AG), 1 Vilian (AG)).

Croatia, Hellas, JUST face a busy week

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Footscray JUST limbered up for its bid for league leadership by beating a team of players from Victorian Yugoslav-backed clubs 3-1. Ossie Latif scored two and Vlado Stosic one, Zdravko Lujic provided most of the ammunition and Tom Karic was superb in defence.

Youth league

This week's NSL Youth League, Southern Division games on Sunday: Heidelberg v Juventus, 1pm, Footscray JUST v Green Gully, 1pm, Nunawading City v Frankston Pines, 3pm, South Melbourne Hellas v Sunshine George Cross 1pm, Melbourne Cross v Makedonia 1pm.

Results: Southern Division: Brighton 3 Footscray JUST 1, Green Gully 2 Heidelberg 1, Sunshine Geo. Cross 3 Nunawading City 0, Preston-Makedonia 3 Brunswick 0.

W D L F A P

Sun. Geo. Cross	13	2	2	50	9 28
St. Melb. Hellas	11	3	2	37	15 20
Heidelberg	10	3	4	29	19 20
Melb. Croatia	9	2	2	27	13 19
Juve	9	2	2	27	21 19
Makedonia	5	7	5	16	17 25
Brighton	8	1	8	33	26 17
Nunawading	6	4	6	20	27 16
Green Gully	5	1	3	22	35 15
Preston Pines	5	1	3	22	35 11
Fawks	2	1	13	15	48 50
	0	16	2	3	71 0

Northern Division: Canberra 6 d Canterbury 3, PSS 29, Blacktown 24, Canterbury City 28, Sydney 24, Canterbury City 24, St. George 23, Marconi 23, Apia Leichhardt 18, Sydney Olympic 18, Wollongong 14, Sydney Croatia 10, Newcastle 8, Canterbury 8, Inter-Monaro 7.

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JUST meets Adelaide Hellas at Hindmarsh Stadium tonight (Wednesday) and needs only a point to regain leadership of the NSL Southern Division following Bruns-wick-Juve's 1-2 loss to Makedonia.

Melbourne Croatia's long-awaited home match against South Melbourne Hellas will be played at Olympic Park tonight, with the youth teams providing the curtain-raiser at 5.45 pm.

With a total of six matches scheduled tonight, a full round on Saturday and Sunday, and the Nanda National Cup semi-finals next Wednesday, all following the senior and youth international series against Czechoslovakia, we're placing a hell of a strain on the players and stretching the financial resources of the fans to the limit.

Heidelberg has Alan Hunter, Jeff Oliver, Ian McKie and Claude Lucchesi back for its clash with Brunswick-Juve on Sunday, and the Cup semi-final against Sydney Croatia at Olympic Park next Wednesday.

The next few weeks will present us with a fascinating tussle between Makedonia's Gary Cole and Hakoah's John Kosmina in the goalscoring stakes. Cole, who faces Croatia's Dave McIntosh and George Hannah at Olympic Park on Sunday, needs goals to stay ahead of Kosmina as the all-time top scorer in NSL Cup and finals matches. Cole, with 126, leads Kosmina by only two!

Just sweeper Vojislav Vulcevici may have to serve a suspension against Green Gully on Sunday. He was found guilty by the NSL tribunal of having sworn at referee Chris Bambridge, but an appeal lodged by JUST meant he can play tonight (Wednesday).

Just coach Dragoslav Sekularac will face a charge of ungentlemanly conduct tomorrow (Thursday). He was sent off the field by Bambridge during a recent match against George Cross.

A double-header will be played by St. George Stadium on Sunday. St. George Budapest meets Blacktown in the early match at 1 pm, followed by Sydney Olympic's clash with Sydney Hakoah at 3 pm.

APIA faces a testing week, with matches against Olympic and Canberra but if it comes through with two or three points, it will have a good chance of qualifying for the new, 14-team competition.

South Melbourne Hellas' mission is to return to the top five after being displaced by George Cross last Sunday. If it wins tonight (Wednesday), it will jump to fourth position but it has another hard game on Sunday against a George Cross team that is determined to beat the odds and finish among the 14, although defender Chris Taylor has gone overseas and will miss several matches.

South Melbourne Hellas' mission is to return to the top five after being displaced by George Cross last Sunday. If it wins tonight (Wednesday), it will jump to fourth position but it has another hard game on Sunday against a George Cross team that is determined to beat the odds and finish among the 14, although defender Chris Taylor has gone overseas and will miss several matches.

The winner receives a magnificent trophy and a complete equipment kit. Included in the kit is a tracksuit, Mitre multiplex ball, shin guards, etc.

So this year's top scorer will be next year's best prepared player thanks to Mitre. The value of the prize is \$500.



Gary Cole (right) of Makedonia clashes with Mike Petersen of Juventus. Cole is busy defending his lead among the NSL's all-time top scorers.

This week's NSL matches, with likely winners in brackets.

TONIGHT (WEDNESDAY)

Adelaide Hellas v FOOTSCRAY JUST at Hindmarsh Stadium, 7.30 pm.

Melbourne Croatia v South Melbourne Hellas (draw) at Olympic Park, 7.30 pm.

Wollongong v NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD at Wollongong Showground, 7.30 pm.

Sydney Olympic v APIA-Leichhardt (draw) at St. George Stadium, 7.30 pm.

Canberra Olympians v SYDNEY CROATIA at Bruce Stadium, 7.30 pm.

MARCONI v St. George Budapest at Marconi Stadium, 7.30 pm.

SATURDAY

NEWCASTLE-ROSEBUD v Marconi at Adamstown Oval, 7 pm.

SUNDAY

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER v Brunswick-Juve at Olympic Village, 3 pm.

FOOTSCRAY JUST v Green Gully at Schinter Reserve, 3 pm.

Brussels-Louvain v ADELAIDE HELLAS at Richmond, 3 pm.

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS v Brisbane City at Olympic Sports Field, 3 pm.

South Melbourne Hellas v Sunshine George Cross (draw) at Middle Park, 3 pm.

Melbourne Croatia v PRESTON MAKEDONIA at Olympic park, 3 pm.

St. George Budapest v Blacktown City (draw) at St. George Stadium, 1 pm.

Sydney Olympic v Sydney City Hakoah (draw) at St. George Stadium, 3 pm.

INTER MONARO v Canterbury-Marrickville at Seiffert Oval, 3 pm.

SYDNEY CROATIA v Wollongong at Croatian Sports Centre, 3 pm.

APIA-Leichhardt v Canberra Olympians at Lambert park, 3 pm.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

NATIONAL CUP SEMI-FINALS

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER v Sydney City Hakoah at Olympic Park, 7.30 pm.

ADELAIDE HELLAS v Canberra Olympians, at Hindmarsh Stadium, 7.30 pm.

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sports balls

• Mitre Sports, the company which for so long has sponsored Australian soccer, now has cemented its association with "Soccer Action" by sponsoring the 1986 NSL Top Scorer award.

The winner receives a magnificent trophy and a complete equipment kit. Included in the kit is a tracksuit, Mitre multiplex ball, shin guards, etc.

So this year's top scorer will be next year's best prepared player thanks to Mitre. The value of the prize is \$500.

Leading scorers:

12. Kosmin (S.Hak)

11. Arnold (S.Cr.)

9. Maxwell (A.Juve)

8. Latif (JUST), R. Brown (Marc), Jones (NR)

7. Nunter (H), Lewis (M.Cr), Ingham (NR), Jurin (S.Cr), Zinni (B.Juve), Villani (A.Juve)

6. Cooper (BC), Carroll (B), Giraldi (W), Crainie (SMH), Kalantzi (SO), Lowe (Marc), Wade (B.Juve)

5. Richardson (SGC), Spink (JUST), Ward (AH), Wilson (H), Mullen (A.Juve), Egan (SMH), Sooper (SO), Thorntwaite (B), Johnston (SO), Kozek (St.G), Phillips (C), Farina (S.Hak), Smith, Cole (Mak), Johnston (SO)

4. Konstandopoulos (AH), Semelidis, Lucheschi (H), Biskic (M.Cr), Lane (Mak), Estavillo (SO), Zrilic (CM), Odzakov (S.Cr), Rivero (W), Fletcher (St.G), Gomez (S.Hak), Brown (H)

3. Postecoglou (SMH), Ingham (NR), Hristodoulou (AH), Tapai (JUST), Kalantzi (SO), Lamond (S.Cr), Douglas (GG), Spink (JUST), Mazis (Can), Tobin (A.Juve), Niscioli (Ad.Juve)

2. 18. D. Hunter (BL), 16. Jones (NR), Lamond (S.Cr), Douglas (GG), Spink (JUST), 12. Mazis (Can), Tobin (A.Juve), 11. Niscioli (Ad.Juve)

1. 37. Postecoglou (SMH), 28. Ingham (NR), 27. Hristodoulou (AH), Tapai (JUST), 23. Kalantzi (SO), 21. Dunn (Can), 20. Ollerenshaw (St.G), Tsolakis (H).

Ansett.

NSL SOUTHERN DIV

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS	10	4	3	30	11	24
FSCRAY JUST	10	4	2	24	18	24
HBERG-ALEXANDER	7	7	3	29	20	21
ADEL C. JUVENTUS	7	6	4	24	16	20
SSSHINE GEO CROSS	6	8	3	21	15	20
S. Melb Hellas	7	4	5	22	14	18
Preston-Makedonia	5	7	1	18	16	17
Adelaide Hellas	5	3	8	16	22	13
Brisbane Lions	4	4	8	15	24	12
Melbourne Croatia	2	6	9	15	38	10
Green Gully	2	5	10	13	28	9

NSL NORTHERN DIV

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
SYDNEY CROATIA	10	3	3	30	12	23
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	7	8	1	29	18	22
MARCONI	7	6	3	27	16	20
SYD C. HAKOAH	6	7	4	33	22	19
BLACKTOWN	7	4	6	21	26	18
Wollongong	6	5	5	18	15	17
N Castle-Rosebud	5	6	5	24	25	16
St. George Budapest	6	4	6	21	25	16
APIA'l hard!	4	6	7	16	20	12
C'berr Olympians	3	6	7	16	31	10
C'bury-M'ville	2	6	9	16	31	9
Inter-Monaro	2	5	10	13	34	9

AMETCO AWARD

• Ametco Travel will award to the best player of the NSL a trip to Europe, flying Thai International.

50. Semelidis (H).
47. Hunter (H).
44. Slater (B).
43. Dobson (Mak), Estavillo (SO).
42. Wade (B.Juve).
40. Jackson (BL).
39. Bertogna (APIA).
38. Franken (Can), Cumming (GC).
37. Gosling (NR), Postecoglou (SMH).
36. Wheatley (Marc).
35. Lowe (Marc).
34. Stosic (JUST).
32. Baric (APIA), Mullen (A.Juve).
31. Palacios (Can), Vlietstra (W), Arnold (S.Cr).
30. McDowell (SMH), Fraser (GC).
29. Winn (B.Cr), Butler (APIA), Crainie (SMH), E. Campbell, Yzendoorn (B.Juve), Gilder, MacLaren (GC).
28. Ogden (BL), Ingham, Cavanah (NR).
27. Farina (SC-Hak), Zaimi (CM), Budini (IM), Flounders (A.Juve), Tapai (JUST), Hristodoulou (AH).
26. Raskopoulos (SO), Metta (A.Juve), Gojevic (M.Cr), Nikitic (JUST).
25. Ollerenshaw (St.G), Hannah (M.Cr), Honeyman (AH), James (GC).
24. Hantzis, Zritic (CM), Carbone (IM), Knight (B).
23. Liddell (BL), Giraldi (W), Rozic (S.Cr).
23. Kalantzi (SO).
22. Gomez (S.Hak), Odzakov (S.Cr), Russell (SMH), Mengotti (BC).
21. Dunn (Can), Kosmina (SC-Hak), Green (W), Maxwell (A.Juve), McIntosh (M.Cr).
20. Brown (APIA), Skeen (St.G), Biskic (M.Cr), Tso-lakas (H), Dunn (AH).

Team of the week

In brackets: number of appearances in team of week.

BARKER (1)
(Canterbury)

JAMES (2) DOBSON (4) MENGOTTI (2) MAZIS (1)
(George Cross) (Makedonia) (Bris.B.City) (Canberra)

OGDEN (3) MACLAREN (1) TSOLAKIS (1)
(Bris. Lions) (S. Geo. Cross) (Heidelberg)

(SMITH (1) GILDER (2) CUMMING (1)
(Makedonia) (S.Geo.Cross) (Green Gully)

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Sean Lane: from Roos to reserves



Laurie Schwab

B. Juventus 1 Makedonia 2

Scorers: 0-1 Smith 25th, 1-2 Durakovic 35th, 1-2 Cole 52nd

Venue: Olympic Park.

Crowd: about 1500.

Referee: Alan Kibbler 6.

Caution: Patterson (Juve).

With Steve Smith finally back after injury, Makedonia coach Bill Murray had to decide whom to drop. He chose Sean Lane, who played in the youth game, which Makedonia won 3-0.

It was a shock to say the least. Lane was in the Australian B team against China last year. He was in the Socceroos training squad for the series against Czechoslovakia.

But Murray reckons Lane hasn't been playing as well as he did last year and there's no denying his scoring touch had deserted him.

"I think the Hellas thing may have affected him," Murray said.

South Melbourne Hellas made a big offer for Lane before it signed Stuart Stevenson from Sydney Olympic. Lane was keen to move but Makedonia didn't let him.

"I decided late on Friday that the time had come to give Sean the chance to rediscover his form," Murray said. "The way to do that is to free him of pressure in the youth team. He did OK, setting up two of the goals."

Senior player Mike Necovski, who also had been relegated to the youth team, scored one of them.

Murray sprung other surprises in having Ian Roodhouse, usually the right back, playing at central midfield, and relegating Zoran Iloski to the bench. Iloski came on at half time to replace Con Ospasini who aggravated a hamstring injury.

Juve's leader of the NSW Southern Division, lined up without Paul Wade who was in Sydney with the Socceroos and Andrew Zinni who had injured a knee during the week.

Joe Sweeney was resurrected from the youth team to partner Scott Patterson up front. Mehmet Durakovic was



• Steve Smith

brought into the line-up at left midfield and Robbie Cullen switched from the flank to central midfield to take Wade's place.

Juve played its usual, predictable game of trying to pass virtually every ball to the central strikers, but had little success of success against Ian Dobson and the finest stoppers in the land.

And the central midfield area was blocked by Roodhouse and Ron Campbell.

Juve left back Eddie Campbell varied the play as much as he could and was clearly his team's best player but although Juve applied pressure to force at least a draw, Makedonia was resolute enough to hang on.

Juve's match should have drawn a much bigger crowd than the 1500 people in the stadium, but many soccer fans simply turned around and went home when they failed to find parking space.

Torrill and Dean were skating in the entertainment centre next door, and Carlton was playing Collingwood at the MCG. Long lines of buses were parked along the kerb in streets around Olympic Park. The parking areas usually used by soccer patrons were full.

It's happened often enough before but no-one does anything about it. It's easy to anticipate such congestion well in advance. When Juve or Croatia, the other Olympic Park tenant find themselves

**Man of the match:
IAN DOBSON
(Makedonia)**

with so much competition, they should have their match switched to Saturday or arrange a deal under which it could be played on the ground of the opposing team.

So here we live and soul of the first half, on Sunday, not that there was much life about this match as far as the spectators were concerned.

Smith offered himself for every ball in attack, and often raced back to clear the ball in defence.

But it was Juve that almost took the lead in the 5th minute when a pass from Scott Patterson found Joe Palatisides running into the penalty area. Goalkeeper Phil Traianedes pounced at Palatisides' feet, saving a goal that eventually will make him an Australian international.

Makedonia almost scored an own goal in the 13th minute.

Dobson chested down a Palatisides cross, intending probably to lay it back to Traianedes. Instead, Dobson launched the ball towards the empty net. He scampered after it and no doubt breathed a sigh of relief when it went just wide.

After those narrow escapes, Makedonia took the lead. Martin Woodall sent a long clearance upfield, Smith headed it, goalkeeper Yakkha Banovic dove wide to narrow the angle and Smith placed a sweet shot past Banovic, into the far side of the goal.

Ten minutes later the scores were level. Peter Lewis crossed from right to left Nick van Egmond, who had been in two minds about sticking with Durakovic paid dearly for his indecision as Durakovic ran onto the cross and drove it home.

Referee Alan Kibbler made a mistake which may have cost Juve a goal. Patterson headed the ball down to Palatisides who was running into the box as Kibbler blew his whistle over a foul on Patterson. Juve had the advantage when the ball reached Palatisides, but Kibbler took that advantage away.

Three minutes before half time, Smith ran onto a long ball and headed wide of Banovic, intending to run onto it and then place it into the empty net. Banovic took a swipe at the ball, connecting with Smith in the process, and Kibbler awarded a penalty. Cole converted it and his 12th goal in NSL league, Cup and final matches. John Kosmin of SC-Hakeah has 124.

Juve replaced Sweeney with David Vesnaver at half time. Vesnaver played at right midfield and Palatisides went into attack to partner Patterson.

Mike McLennan and Cole played a series of one-twos in the 59th minute. Cole's shot at goal was blocked, it rebounded to Graham Heys but Heys' shot went wide.

John Dowie, who had been outstanding in the first half, replaced Durakovic in the 66th minute. Dowie went into the middle of midfield and Cullen, who hadn't been able to take a trick against Roodhouse, went back to his customary flank position where he did a lot better.

From a long throw in the 85th minute, Smith, connecting with his head behind a defender, sent the ball over the bar and that was the last scoring chance in a generally uneventful match.

Wily, Polish import Burin Zaimi made a superb run down the right flank and crossed along the ground to the lightning-fast Rene Licata.

Licata was unmarked but Economopoulos did well to move out quickly to narrow the angle.

As Economopoulos dived, Licata, in a one-on-one, tried to squeeze the ball under the goalkeeper's body. He almost succeeded but when the ball bounced free it was quickly cleaned up by Tommy Sermann.

Such was Canterbury's dominance that it forced 16 corners.

But they rarely troubled Canterbury's six-foot plus goalkeeper, Ian Barker who was in fine form, particularly in the second half.



• Ian Roodhouse (right), who starred for Makedonia in his new midfield position, watches as team mate Nick Van Egmond beats Juventus's Mehmet Durakovic in the air. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Mazis, Barker shine but match is bleak



Peter Windsor

Canberra 0 Canterbury 0

Venue: Bruce Stadium.
Ref: T. Pollard, 6.
Crowd: 692.

Canberra's territorial dominance and two-touch, short-passing came to nothing when weighed against its abysmal finishing in a dreadfully boring 0-0 draw with Canterbury.

Made no mistake, Canberra was by far the better side.

In fact at times it dominated totally, but as so often has been the case this season, Canberra lacked bite near goal.

This was Canberra's sixth draw of the season.

Yet to have any chance of a mid-table berth, Canberra desperately needed to win.

Now it needs to beat a Northern Division leader, Sydney Croatia tonight (Wednesday) under floodlights.

Although the club was angered by Frank Arok's refusal to release goalkeeper Tony Franken, given Arok has not used him in any of the internationals it has little to do with the outcome.

Understudy goalkeeper George Economopoulos played well.

From a first half breakaway Canterbury had perhaps the game's easiest goalscoring opportunity.

It fell in the 27th minute.

Wily, Polish import Burin Zaimi made a superb run down the right flank and crossed along the ground to the lightning-fast Rene Licata.

Licata was unmarked but Economopoulos did well to move out quickly to narrow the angle.

As Economopoulos dived, Licata, in a one-on-one, tried to squeeze the ball under the goalkeeper's body. He almost succeeded but when the ball bounced free it was quickly cleaned up by Tommy Sermann.

Such was Canterbury's dominance that it forced 16 corners.

But they rarely troubled Canterbury's six-foot plus goalkeeper, Ian Barker who was in fine form, particularly in the second half.

He was Canterbury's best

Xyrakias dies

Canberra and Canterbury observed a minute's silence as a tribute to Downer-Olympic president, Nick Xyrakias.

Xyrakias, 62, who had a lifelong interest in soccer, died last week.

In his second term as president of Downer Olympic, the club that underwrote the cost of Canberra Olympians.

In the 60th minute Canberra front-runner Ian Gibson tried an almost identical move — and this time Barker fisted the attempt onto the crossbar and away, for one of those 16 Canberra corner kicks.

It was all Canberra, but had they played for 900 rather than 90 minutes, I doubt they would have found the net.

There has to be more aggres-

sion once inside the penalty area.

Player-coach Steve Bryant had to step in and replaced himself midway through the second half with Ray Janna, and then brought off an out-of-form Jason Dunn to give young Tony Lemeza the opportunity to make his National League debut.

Lemeza, however, came on only 11 minutes from the end and that didn't allow him to show the goal-poaching skills that have made him so dominant in the national youth league.

As Bryant so aptly commented: "It's just another point that escaped us — a point we wasted".

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• Sean Lane — dropped to youth team



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Destroyer Van Blerk

By WALTER PLESS

AUSTRALIA 3 (van Blerk 24th, Ollerenshaw 86th, Hristodoulou 90th). CZECHOSLOVAKIA 0, at KGV Park, Glenorchy, Tasmania. Attendance: 1500. Referee: J. Johnston (Tas) 8. Cautions: Hristodoulou (Australia), Mikus, Foldyna (Czechoslovakia).

AUSTRALIA: Bouhuasas 6 — Kulcsar 6 (Cummings 46th, 7). Harley 6, Reynolds 7, Northam 8 — Markovski 6 (Koch 80th), Polak 8, Hristodoulou 7 — Edwards 7, Ollerenshaw 7, van Blerk 9.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Ondruska 8 — Bodnar 8, Skarabela 8, Margolius 7, Chlupik 6 — Mikus 8, Gala 6, Foldyna 6 — Zarsky 6 (Kriz 46th, Trval 8). Griga 7 (Giga 75th).

Australia's young Socceroos survived a brisk opening 15 minutes by Czechoslovakia to dominate the second half and run out worthy 3-0 winners in the first game of the three-match series.

Czechoslovakia looked the better team technically for much of the game but it was woefully inadequate in front of goal.

Its two tall strikers, Marek Polak and Frantisek Halas, roamed far and wide but were never able to capitalise on their height advantage although, to be fair, the service they received in the air was abysmal.

Australia's defence was solid and courageous and well-led by local boy and captain, Kurt Reynolds. It became even better after Alex Cummings came on at the interval for George Kulcsar.

Jason Polak was a dynamo in midfield, urging and prompting his team-mates and instigating the action at every opportunity.

The two major figures, however, were Australia's Jason van Blerk and Czechoslovakia's goalkeeper, Ivan Ondruska.

van Blerk destroyed the Czechs in the left flank with some scintillating runs and accurate crosses, while his occasional forays into midfield invariably demoralised opponents and left heaps of them in his wake.

Ondruska kept the score within respectable limits and made at least three crucial saves in the second half. One of these, in the 83rd minute, from Ollerenshaw at point-blank range, would have been worthy of Viktor, that famous Czech keeper of the mid-70s.

On the other hand, two good changes before Australia took the lead in the 24th minute, Skarabela gave the ball away in midfield, the Australians switched play to the left and van Blerk cut inside to shoot into the far corner of the net from an acute angle.

The Czechs should have equalised and taken the lead in the three minutes before the interval. In the 42nd minute,



• Youth coach Les Schienflug stresses a point at training with his Australian squad. Picture: RAOUL KOCHANOWSKI of "The Mercury".

In Brisbane

Scheinflug wants game against Kiwis

By RICKY ROSSO

AUSTRALIA 6 (Hristodoulou, Polak 2, Margolius o.g. Markovski, Schute) CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1 (Hala) at Perry Park. Crowd about 1000. Referee: Bill Monteverde.

AUSTRALIA: Bouhuasas (Mower 82nd) — Harley, Reynolds, Cummings, Northam — Hristodoulou, Polak, Koch (Markovski half time), van Blerk — Edwards, Ollerenshaw, (Schute), Edwards. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Ondruska — Bodnar, Skarabela, Chlupik, Margolius — Gala, Zarsky, Halas, Trval (Knoflick 72nd) — Mikus, Kocian.

Australian youth coach Les Scheinflug wants to match his dynamic young Socceroos against New Zealand — before the Oceania qualifying series in Auckland early next year.

Scheinflug has called on the ASF to organise a youth international as a curtain-raiser to the clash between the country's senior teams later this year.

Australia must beat the Kiwis, Israel and other Oceania region members including Taiwan, Fiji and Papua New Guinea to gain a place in the next World Youth finals in Chile next year.

"A match against New Zealand is in Arthur George's and the World Cup committee's hands, but I certainly wouldn't mind playing against them before the qualifying series," Scheinflug said.

"Even if we should lose, we can learn from them. It will be good experience for us."

Scheinflug, who achieved great success with the young Socceroos in 1981 (Australia) and 1983 (Mexico), adopted his "prepared to take on all-comers" attitude after his team had swept aside a Czechoslovakia youth combination 6-1 at Brisbane's Perry Park.

The match was rated as one of the best attacking displays ever from an Australian team in Brisbane. The Aussies led 1-0 at half time but blitzed the tourists in the second half in a display which more than hinted that this combination could be our best youth side ever.

And the star of the win was home-town boy Jason Polak, who after the match was again labelled by Scheinflug as "the blond Patikas."

Polak, a Queensland youth player from Brisbane north-side suburbs Pine Rivers, now studies at the Institute of Sport in Canberra, scored two and had a hand in another two goals.

(Polak) is dynamite as soon as he turns with the ball. He caused them all kinds of problems. I called him the blond Patikas and I think you can see why. When he comes on, he's like a machine to score. He has speed and can hit a ball with both feet. He glides over the field; you don't see his legs move, he just glides past defenders," Scheinflug said.

Although the Czechoslovakians played poorly, with deeper Ivan Ondruska failing to cope with the irregular bounce of the Brisbane surface, nothing could be taken away from the Australian performance.

It is testament to the all-round ability of the side how quickly they have knitted into

a team. With very few exceptions, Scheinflug picked a side which after only three training camps and two matches, blended perfectly.

"They are a team of youngsters who comprehend very quickly and I let them play the style they play best — that is, going forward and taking on players. But what impressed me most was the way we scored goals. Players were willing to take shots or get into shooting positions," Scheinflug said.

There is a lot of polishing to do, but it's very heartening to see the movement."

Australia took 31 minutes to lodge its first goal, although it had gone perilously close with two earlier attempts from Lou Hristodoulou and Alastair Edwards.

Left-back Darren Northam began the move for the first goal, knocking a deep cross which found the head of Polak. The Queenslanders nodded down and when confused Czech defence failed to clear, Hristodoulou darted in to score.

With a minute to half-time

Czechoslovakia's Marek Mikus had a dream chance to equalise but showed a lack of composure when he fired his attempt well over the cross bar.

But in the second half it was all Australia. Just three minutes after the break Polak began a move that resulted in a goal which most talked about long after the game. The blond midfielder won the ball just outside his own box and played a forward pass to behind the attack. A series of team-mates carried it forward before Hristodoulou fired a vicious shot which could not be parried by Ondruska. And Alastair Edwards was there to slot away the rebound? None other than Polak who had made a blistering 70m run.

Jason van Blerk set up the second when, as he had been doing all night, he turned and breezed past his marker before weaving his way into the box. His shot was fumbled by Ondruska and in a desperate clearance, Richard Margolius put it into his own goal.

While van Blerk was not credited with the attempt, he

deserved a goal for his efforts. This youngster is the first true winger produced by Australia since the great Peter Sharpe and has all the skill to be as dangerous and entertaining as the Marconi legend.

Substitute David Schute, who had replaced Scott Ollerenshaw, took only a minute to get into the action and set up Ally Edwards for a fierce shot. Ondruska parried down, but Polak was there to put away the loose ball.

Sunshine George Cross midfield replacement John Markovski, a half-time replacement for the injured John Koch, scored Australia's next with a fine free kick from 20m. He curled his left-foot shot around the ball and put it in off the base of the far upright.

Australia got one more in the last minute, when Polak's shot again wasn't held by Ondruska and Schute scored, while the tourists got a consolation goal when the Australian defence was caught napping and Frantisek Halas stormed through a square buckline to score.

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In Newcastle

Czechs get last laugh

CZECHOSLOVAKIA YOUTH 4 (Halas 2, Hasek, Trval) AUSTRALIA YOUTH 0 at Macquarie Field, Newcastle. Crowd: 1150.

The Australian youth team lost 4-1 to Czechoslovakia in Newcastle last Saturday, but its 3-0 and 6-1 victories in the previous games indicate that coach Les Scheinflug has come up with the nucleus of the team he wants for the 1987 World Youth Championships.

Czechoslovakia was given help against the young Socceroos by senior players Miroslav Siva and Petr Kostelnik.

Ivan Hasek was sent off nine minutes from the end over a foul on Australia's Jason van Blerk, one of the outstanding players of the series.

Hasek scored the first goal and two more by Frantisek Halas left the Cossacks in a commanding position with 20 minutes to play.

Marek Trval, who was among Czechoslovakia's best players, notched the fourth in the 77th minute.

Scheinflug, who had made changes to try Derek Briegel, John Anastasiadis and goalkeeper David Mower, named midfielders Darren Northam and Jason Polak as his best players.



• Faster than a speeding Maradona: more powerful than Hans-Peter Briegel: able to leap goalposts in a single bound — is it Superman's alter ego? No, it's Ronnie Bolton. Ronnie who? He plays for Caledonians in Hobart, where Clark Kent-style glasses have not yet been superseded by contact lenses. Bolton is seen battling with Matt Bloomfield of Rapid Wrest Point, with Ian Parker in the background. Picture by TONY PALMER, "The Mercury".

Maxwell change angers fans, criticism angers Yankos

By LAURIE SCHWAB

AUSTRALIA 0 CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1 (Griga 50th) at Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd about 2000. Referee: Don Campbell 8. Cautions: Kubik (Cz), Hunter (Aust).

AUSTRALIA: Oliver 7 McDowall 7, Yankos 8, Dunn (inj) sub Hunter 6, 12th; Gray 7, Odzakos 7, Wade 7, Arnold 7, Melta 5, (Raskopoulos 57th). Maxwell 8 (Faria 73rd), Kosmina 4 Coach: Frank Arok. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Kostelnik 6 - Levy 7, Chovanec 8, Straka 8, Fiala 7, Hasek 6 (Ondra 7, half time), Kula 9, (Siva 82nd), Griz 7 - Griga 8, Kubik 8, Luhový 7 Coach: Josef Masopust.

Australian sweeper Charlie Yankos claimed after this game the press had been picking on the Socceroos. They were unjustly criticised over their first two performances against Czechoslovakia, he said.

Six or seven years ago, any visiting European national team would have thrashed Australia, he said, whereas the results were much closer now. Yet the Socceroos were not given sufficient credit. Team restructuring had not been taken into consideration, he added. Alan Davidson, Oscar Crino, Steve O'Connor, Terry Greedy, Jim Patikas, David Mitchell and Joe Watson are gone. The team that lost 0-1 in Adelaide featured six changes since its 1-1 draw on the Sunday.

And having studied the match in Melbourne on video, Yankos said his team-mates were convinced they were not as bad as that day as press reports suggested. Coach Frank Arok echoed that sentiment, but admitted that watching the game "live" he had been bitterly disappointed.

Let's accept all that.

Let's look at this series as merely stage one of a demanding rebuilding programme which Arok hopes will yield a team at least as talented as the one that came so close to qualifying for the World Cup.

But the shortage of skill was nevertheless disturbing in Adelaide especially since Arok had stated that skill would be the major ingredient in the new national team that will contest the 1988 Gold Cup and Olympic Games.

As Czech coach Josef Masopust said after the Adelaide game: "Technically we were much better than Australia. We won because our inter-play and our combinations worked for us, even though some of our players were a bit afraid of the Australians' tackling. It was only a friendly game, so there was no reason to be so rough."

Arok said: "They were the better side. We had a completely new team, we're giving everyone a chance and we're learning about the quality of the players."

But his team included a minimum of players who



• Paul Wade — worked hard in midfield in Adelaide. At left is Robbie Dunn who was carried off injured early in the match.

can be said to have a high degree of skill — Zarko Odzakos, naturally, Sergiu Melta who however, had a quiet debut, and the skilful defender Alan Hunter who also was uncharacteristically introverted after replacing the injured Robbie Dunn.

The successful players traded on qualities other than pure ball skill. Garry McDowall showed his usual fierce competitiveness, Steve Maxwell his strength, running power and determination; Graham Arnold likewise in a midfield position.

And so, if Arok is to achieve his aim of developing a highly skilful team (which of course would have the necessary fighting qualities as well), he will be looking further afield. If Oscar Crino and Jim Patikas return for the important matches, they will provide a large part of the answer. And it's a shame such a rift exists between Eddie Kruecic and Arok.

The Adelaide game rammed home one message loud and clear: Graham Arnold must be in the first-choice 11. He had an admirable first half until his team ran out of ideas.

John Kosmina apparently had the flu, but it seems inappropriate that among Arok's "mad dogs" one is treated differently to the rest of the pack. Whereas other players are substituted when they play poorly,

Kosmina is not. In fact, he hasn't been replaced in the past 15 matches in which he has played. The reason given is that he's the captain, between West Germany's captain, Karl-Heinz Rummenigge is an automatic.

Little wonder that the crowd howled loudly when Arok replaced Maxwell rather than Kosmina. Maxwell, after a hesitant start, had worked himself into the ground and come close to scoring with a header and a shot after sidestepping full-back Stanislav Levy.

Kosmina, on the other hand, was on the verge of an individual milestone, needing one goal to match Attila Abonyi's record of 25 in full internationals.

But let's talk also about the Czechs.

While Arok made six changes to the team that had drawn 1-1 in Melbourne Czech coach Masopust made five changes, bringing in goalkeeper Petr Kostelnik, centre backs Josef Chovanec and Frantisek Straka, forward Stanislav Griga and midfielder Tomas Griz.

Chovanec and Straka replaced Josef Novak and Jan Fiala as the central defenders, with Fiala moving to left back and Novak being omitted. After half time, Chovanec moved to right midfield. Both he and Straka were among the best players in the match and Griga scored the winning goal, but the best player on the field was midfield Karel Kula who also had starred in Melbourne.

Czechoslovakia attacked spiritedly down the flanks, and through Lubos Kubik in the middle. The one weak spot in the team was goalkeeper Kostelnik.

Australia was weakened when it lost Robbie Dunn after 12 minutes. Dunn had been playing extremely well before he was crushed by Kula. He got back onto his feet but collapsed again as Milan Luhovsky shot into the side netting. Alan Hunter then came on to replace Dunn who had pinched a nerve behind the knee.

In the 19th minute Odzakos, who was among the best players of the first half, cleared a header from Kubik off the goal line.

Australia swung back into attack via a cross from Maxwell to Kosmina whose shot was smothered by Fiala. From a cross by McDowall, Graham Arnold hit the crossbar with a promising header.

Kubik netted narrowly in the 22nd minute with one of the best shots of the game, and Jeff Oliver reacted quickly to stop a low shot from Chovanec in the 27th minute. In between, Kostelnik fumbled, giving Maxwell a crack at the open goal, but Fiala was on hand to deflect the shot for a corner.

Emulating Fiala, Tomas Griz swooped quickly to smother a shot from Arnold, who had latched onto a nice ball from Wade.

Arnold popped up at the other end of the ground to boot the ball clear as Kubik, who had made the most of a back-heeler from Griz, squared it along the back-line.

Australia was showing a lot more spirit than it had in Melbourne and with 10 minutes to go before half time, Odzakos set up a scoring opportunity with a cross from the right. Kosmina was waiting for it in the middle, but Kostelnik rose like a comet and booted clear in full flight.

Griz played a nice pass to Kubik in the 40th minute but Oliver made the best save of the game stopping Kubik's shot.

The Czech officials jumped off their bench and pro-



• Steve Maxwell — the spectators booted loudly when he was taken off. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.

tested at the sideline after a challenge by McDowall on Ivan Hasek had sent a thud resounding through the terraces. Hasek continued only until half time and was then replaced by Jiri Ondra, a defender.

Before going off, Hasek touched a free kick to Kubik whose shot whistled over the bar as Oliver crossed himself in relief.

Luhovsky shot over the top from inside the six-yard box two minutes after the interval.

Then Arnold lost the ball to Kubik in midfield, with only Straka left guarding the goal. Kubik's foot was as immovable as a rock, his outstretched foot almost bursting the ball as it stopped Kubik's advance.

Czechoslovakia scored shortly afterwards, however. Kula crossed from the right, Griga accepted the ball, skirted a few defenders and slipped the ball low across Oliver into the far corner of goal.

Australia fought back furiously. Odzakos' cross found Maxwell unmarked at the near post but Maxwell's header was held by Kostelnik.

Arok replaced Melta with Peter Raskopoulos in the 57th minute and Australia launched another attack, with Yankos sending a long ball to Maxwell. Under pressure, Maxwell pushed the ball to Arnold whose hurried shot went across goal.

Maxwell was in everything as he slung the ball wide for Raskopoulos whose angled drive was turned for a corner.

But that was it. Czechoslovakia took control with its superior skill and Australia was reduced to despairing individual efforts, hopeful long-range shots but precious little creativity.

Luckily for Australia, Yankos was on hand to take the ball off Griga's foot inside the penalty area. The announcement that the young Socceroos had beaten Czechoslovakia's youth team 6-1 in Brisbane provided the fans with some compensation for the senior's defeat.



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Lord, Maner, Corry ... now Oliver



Car Crino (right) takes on Garry McDowell in the Socceroos' against the Victorian Press All-Stars last year.

no puts in a word Bozinovski, Tapai

Oscar Crino believes just midfielders Tapai and Vlado Bozki would be valuable to the national squad.



who is in Melbourne recovering from a groin injury, said he hoped available for Socceroo selection when Australia meets New Zealand's year.

is supposed to return to his Cypriot club, Anorthosis at the end of

stayed in Melbourne to undergo a course of treatment and exercise his injury.

osis since has threatened to put Crino out of the game by

said this week he had left the matter in the hands of his manager,

and his solicitor.

taking eight antibiotics a day, plus anti-inflammatory pills, to hurry

I'm swimming every day and I'm working out in the gym every

day," Crino said.

been out of action for two months so far, and expects to be out for

another six weeks. It will be three months before he's match fit, he

transferred from SM-Hellas for almost \$30,000 late last year and is

act with Anorthosis until the end of May, 1987. Anorthosis however,

stitude that he has broken his contract by not returning to Cyprus

and that maximum transfer fee provisions in the contract no longer

has a high regard for the Czech team that won its three-match

against Australia.

can't expect too much of the Australian team at the moment,

so many changes have been necessary," he said. "Those of us

in the World Cup team had been together for at least two

id Bozinovski and Tapai may add skill and running power to the

Vatson first or gold medal

Watson was awarded a gold medal after his comeback against Czechoslovakia at Parramatta Stadium.

Watson, who has played 44 for Australia, was given the honour of captaining the Australians in the start of the match. He replaced after five minutes by defender Angie Postecoglou.

If president Sir Arthur George turned at the ground it had decided to award special gold medals to players with more than 10 international appearances, silver to those between 20-30, and bronze to others.

Watson has been a credit to the team and it was a pleasure to him to first be awarded for international team," he said.

ach Frank Arok had selected international to allow Watson a given recognition by his mates and the crowd for his contribution to Australian soccer.

one of the players I badly need in the new team, especially with the ball, his mobility ability to slow play until his mates are in position," said

ok plans further moves later to raise for Socceroos Terry and Steve O'Connor who also retired from international football.



Joe Watson

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**Man of the match:
Karel Kula
(Czechoslovakia)**



Jeff Olver

AUSTRALIA 0 CZECHOSLOVAKIA 3 (Kula 23rd, Kubik 53rd Pen, & 85th) at Parramatta Stadium. Crowd: 10,150. Referee: Richard Lorenc 10.

AUSTRALIA: Oliver 8 — Watson (Postecoglou 5, 5th min, McDowell 6, 46th min), Yankos 7, Dunn 7, Jennings 6 (penalty), Dunn 8, Rada 8, Ondra 8, Kosmina 5, Kalantais 6.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Miklosko 8 — Fiala 7, Straka 8, Ondra 8, Rada 8 — Chovanec 7, Griga 7 (Kocian 76th), Kriz 7 (Luhov 71st) — Kofnolicek 8, Kula 8, Kubik 7.

"We were outplayed by the faster, more skilful and technically superior side. This team is better than England, better than the Scotland side we played before," lamented Frank Arok after Czechoslovakia had humbled Australia at Parramatta Stadium in the last of their three matches.

Australia's star player was Jeff Oliver who saved his side from humiliation by making some incredible saves.

He looked beaten at the 23rd when he took on Ivo Kofnolicek rose to meet a cross from Karel Kula. The header was accurate but Oliver dove superbly as he cut out a certain goal.

Kofnolicek made amends at the 23rd when he took on Robbie Dunn down the left flank. He managed to cut the ball across the Australian Penalty area where Stanislav Griga allowed it to fall for Karel Kula who gave Oliver no chance.

Oliver kept Australia in the game with yet another superb save, this time from Lubos Kubik's 30-metre drive. The Aussie keeper looked stranded with seconds of the first half remaining as the visitors sprayed the ball around with precision, but Kula was inches short of scoring with a desperate lunge attempt.

Australia looked in a desperate situation at half time. The visitors had it all to them-

selves, strutting about the park with arrogant ease, pushing the ball about as if in a fraying session with the home team looking third-rate.

Ivo Kofnolicek got through but yet another brave dive by Oliver saved him a rebound off his feet and away to safety.

Angie Postecoglou looked shaky indeed, so Arok pulled Ian Gray into a fullback position, with Garry McDonald being brought on to add fire to the midfield.

McDonald showed all his fighting spirit in some enthusiastic tackles but Australia was soon to fall again as the visitors ran rampant. Karel Kula was on the run after a neat one-two with Kofnolicek and was about to face the Australian keeper when he was tripped by Jennings. Kubik scored from the resultant penalty to make it 2-0 and for all intents and purposes the game was over.

Arok was critical of the referee over this penalty decision but I am sure that after seeing the replay he would change his mind. There seemed no intention by Jennings to trip Kula but he did, and it was inside the penalty area. Referee Richard Lorenc, only feet away from the action, had no hesitation.

Oliver was Australia's hero once again as Jan Fiala broke through on the right flank. His cross went to Karel Kula who jumped over the ball, allowing Kofnolicek to face Oliver. The Australian keeper managed to block the attempt and then smother a second attempt.

Only a minute later and with the Australians struggling to keep the visitors at bay, it was Jiri Ondra who faced Oliver but hesitated, allowing Charlie

Corry played the most full internationals (against other national teams) — 28 from 1967 to 1973. But it is Lord about whom one speaks in hushed tones. He played his last game in 1965 at the age of 35, after a glorious career that spanned 399 games with Drummoyle, Auburn and Prague in Sydney, 10 games for the Socceroos during an era when Australia was largely left out of international competition, and more than 20 games for New South Wales.

Oliver's development as a player runs parallel with that of his best man, Charlie Yankos, and another good friend, Steve Blair. Yankos, formerly with Heidelberg and now with Adelaide Hellas, is the Socceroos' sweeper and Blair, of South Melbourne Hellas, was a Socceroos regular until work commitments ended his international career.

They played against each other as kids in the Sunshine area — Oliver with Sunshine Heights, Blair with Albion Rovers and Yankos with Newport.

Blair, who now is assistant manager of the RACV Chadstone office, worked until recently at the Footscray branch where Oliver is an insurance underwriting consultant.

"He's very demanding on himself," Blair said, of his good friend.

"And he's got a temper. He'll fly off the handle if you rub him the wrong way."

About Oliver's booming voice, Blair remarked: "He was in goal when I played in defence for Victoria against the West Berlin representative team a few years ago. I had sore ears afterwards. I had to say to him: 'Look, Jeff, opposing forwards do shoot at goal. That's what they're for. But he doesn't think so. He cracks up.'

He's the embodiment of the "mad dogs" image coach Frank Arok has given his Socceroos: fanatical about his game. "Frank is very good at making you proud to wear the green and gold," Oliver said. "He puts pressure on you to see if you can cope. He wants you to be willing to die for your country."



Jeff Olver

played well, created chances and muffed them. But we will work at it," he said.

Asked to compare the great 1962 team with today's national side, Masopust was honest. "We haven't changed our style too much. Our game of short passes is still the basis of our attack but we have speed, the physical part of the game as well as counter-attacks to our game. Football has changed a lot since my days in the national team but we have added all the ingredients necessary to play against the best in the world."

Rudolf Kocak, president of the Czechoslovakian FA, was also at the interview. He wanted to thank the Australian public for a wonderful reception given to his players.

"We have never had such luxury. To applauded for the way we play does not happen anywhere else in the world," he said.

"We will only be too happy to come again and play in your wonderful country," said Kocak.

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La questione di orientarsi verso la conduzione privata delle società calcistiche in Australia da noi ventilata nelle ultime settimane, sembra trovare molti consensi negli ambienti vicini ai vari club che vanno per la maggiore.

In un articolo di prima pagina questo giornale rivelava la settimana scorsa alcuni dei nomi dietro la possibile privatizzazione del South Melbourne Hellas, primo fra tutti l'ex portiere bianconero e della nazionale Australiana Jack Reilly, che oltre ad essere un membro del consiglio d'amministrazione della V.S.F. è, nella vita privata, un grosso operatore finanziario.

Anche la Juventus di Melbourne avrebbe un corteggiatore, un ricco uomo d'affari, interessato a rilevare la società assieme ad altri o addirittura da solo. Non riveliamo il nome dell'interessato poiché la cesa e appena agli inizi e non vorremmo pregiudicare eventuali sviluppi attirando troppo interesse su particolari individuali.

Per quello che ci è dato sapere, la cosa è stata discussa in forma riservata fra alcuni dei massimi dirigenti della Juventus che avrebbero reagito con un "Magari il cielo lo volesse". E non c'è da meravigliarsi che i dirigenti juventini sarebbero felici e contenti di mollarle le pesanti responsabilità amministrative ed il pesante onere finanziario e chiunque potesse dare solide garanzie che il gran lavoro svolto nell'ultimo quadriennio non venga cancellato con un colpo di spugna.

In questi quattro anni la stafetta presidenziale formata da Manenti, Verduci, Schiavello e Caruso ha portato la Juventus da una "squadretta" pericolante nella Lega Statale alla posizione di protagonista principale della Lega Nazionale. In un certo senso la situazione precaria del club quattro anni fa è un po' il motivo principale del suo successo recente.

I quattro ultimi presidenti ed i loro collaboratori approdarono alla Juventus appunto

Ci vorrebbe Graziani!

quattro anni fa con lo spirito di chi si assume una "missione impossibile", una sfida difficile ma ricca di soddisfazioni. La sfida è stata ormai svincolata e rimane solo l'assillante tram-tram di mantenere le posizioni raggiunte. L'ambiente e quindi totalmente diverso e le forze individuali sono state ormai spente fino all'estremo, in modo particolare quelle del presidente Caruso per il quale gli ultimi quattro anni sono stati un continuo crescendo di impegno e responsabilità, per tre anni come team manager e quest'anno nella massima carica.

Mentre gli altri presidenti hanno avuto qualche anno di preparazione e quindi qualche anno di relativo riposo, Caruso si trova sulla bretella ininterrattamente dalla stagione 1982. Sperare che riesca a continuare allo stesso ritmo anche per un altro anno sarebbe l'equivalente di considerarlo di gran lunga superiore a "Superman".

Caruso si conclude anche i contatti allestendo la massima carica poiché il gruppo di dirigenti che prese in mano le sorti del club quattro anni fa con un programma a lunga scadenza e' ormai agli sgoccioli. Praticamente il solo Domenico Tenuta e' ancora attivamente impegnato ad affiancare Caruso nelle vesti di vicepresidente. Sam Manenti continua a dare un notevole contributo. Tony Schiavello e' ancora il principale finanziaria-

tore tramite la sponsorizzazione della Prima Office Furniture ed altre ditte con le quali ha ricca di soddisfazioni. E come le grandi squadre e' quanto totalmente diverse le forze individuali sono state ormai spente fino all'estremo, in modo particolare quelle del presidente Caruso per il quale gli ultimi quattro anni sono stati un continuo crescendo di impegno e responsabilità, per tre anni come team manager e quest'anno nella massima carica.

La privatizzazione del club sarebbe quindi la soluzione migliore, quasi lo sviluppo naturale della situazione. Staremo a vedere perciò cosa succederà da adesso fino all'assemblea generale di fine anno.

Ma qualunque forma avrà l'amministrazione bianconera, e di qualsiasi altra società, che riuscirà ad entrare nelle 14 elette della Lega Nazionale a girone unico (come Marconi, Juventus di Adelaide e possibilmente Apia), il problema principale rimarrà sempre quello di "migliorare il prodotto" per richiamare il pubblico in quantità sufficiente per produrre gli incassi necessari.

Nessuna amministrazione infatti, per brillante che sia, riuscirà mai a vendere un prodotto scadente ad un pubblico sempre più esigente. E' necessario perciò che il parco giocatori e la formula di gioco siano tali da garantire uno spettacolo che val la pena andare a vedere.

Nessuno potrà mettere in dubbio che i giocatori del calibro di Vieri ed allenatori del valore e di Sekularac sono ciò che il pubblico vuole. Il Marconi di Vieri rimane sempre la squadra che ha fatto storia in quanto a richiamo di pubblico (quando il Marconi veniva a giocare a Melbourne contro il S.M. Hellas diecimila spettatori erano all'ordine del giorno). E' chiaro che la metà erano spagnoli italiani (che normalmente non seguivano la squadra di casa). Sekularac in pochi mesi alla guida del JUST ha riportato allo stadio i tifosi jugoslavi ed ha cominciato ad attrarre spettatori non legati al club.

Proprio questa settimana "il Globo" ha pubblicato un'intervista con Graziani in cui il giocatore della Roma (e ex grande della formazione azzurra) ha espresso un certo interesse a venire ad "insegnare il calcio in Australia".

Se non Graziani, siamo sicuri ci saranno diversi nomi notevoli in Italia che, con cartellino libero, potrebbero essere disposti a passare qualche anno agli antipodi. All'inizio dei conti anche per il calcio italiano il vento sembra esser cambiato e ciò che non è stato facile per diversi anni potrebbe ora essere possibile.

Send the Windsor Castle select to China instead!

By
LES SHORROCK

Northcote 4 Melbourne 1

Scorers: Wallace 35th (M); Bekiaris 47th, Toro 63rd, Constantinou 79th & 82nd (N).

This win for the home team eased its relegation problems, and at the same time probably went a long way towards ending Melbourne's short stint in State League.

But the winners have nothing to be smug about, because both sides ended on the most appalling display of kick and rush football that it has been my misfortune to witness for many a season.

It shows to what depths Melbourne has sunk that a player like John Wallace, who has retired twice this year and can't train anyway, can turn up and get a game, score his side's goal and very likely be the man of the match.

Before the match Wallace said to me: "Don't be too harsh on me. I haven't played for nine weeks, and I might not last the 90 minutes, but because they're short, I'm doing Ian (McCarthy) a favor."

He didn't need to worry for in the first half he stuck out like a jewel in a mud.

Only wish those detractors of the National League, who want to see our national competition destroyed in order to restore their own prestige, could be soothed by that.

They prattle on about paper leagues and other fanciful arrangements when the bald fact of the matter is that the team at present on the bottom of the Southern Division, Green Gully, could give any State League team two goals start and beat it out of sight.

If Gully, as seems certain, is playing in next year's State League, it will have to be given a handicap of about 10 points to give the rest a chance, if it's current squad remains intact.

In Melbourne's favor it has to be said that neither John

Man of the match:
PETER CONSTANTINOU
(Northcote)

Bird nor Gerry Edmondson was available to play. And Northcote was without the injured Ken Drakeford, but then, three players don't make a game.

Melbourne, as a club, is in such disarray that it was unable to take part in the reserve game, because its passports didn't arrive until 11pm and the referee refused to continue in the 35th minute.

His last goal summed it all up for Melbourne. A free-kick went straight into Joe Kiss's arms and straight out again, and Constantinou bashed it away with great glee.

What I find absolutely mind-boggling is that Melbourne is off at the end of the season to represent us, the City of Melbourne, with the blessing of the City Council, in China!

Does the City Council know that the club is struggling to pay its VSF affiliation fee? It would be nice to see sending a Windsor Castle XI, at least there would be some skill on display.

For the record, Melbourne had the better of the first half



Peter Constantinou — scored twice in Northcote's 4-1 win over Melbourne Hungaria last weekend. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Loughnane wins it

NUNAWADING CITY 0 BROADMEADOWS 1 (Loughnane 31st). Victorian Division One match at Mahoney's Reserve, Saturday.

NUNAWADING CITY: Major Hurestein, Charalavas, Lawler, McCombe, Moyle, Mullent, Bastash, Groenewald (Remmers 70), Eliot, Pote.

BROADMEADOWS: Pace, De Sa (Griffiths 27th), Cantar, Donaldson, Higham, Mizzi, Watson, Blair (sent off 87), Loughnane, Nolan, Liberto.

Nunawading dominated this vital clash for the first half but lost the match through a lucky goal scored in the 31st minute.

The pace of the home side allowed it to create most of the chances, particularly early in the game.

In the 3rd minute Elliott volleyed superbly but unfortunately to the right, where Pace was standing, and the ball rebounded off the keeper's chest.

Then Pace made a fine one-handed stop from Mullent when a goal looked certain and again from Bastash after he had picked up the rebound from a Moyle shot.

The goal came from an unlikely passage of play in the Nunawading penalty area.

Majer advanced to get a loose ball but a defender attempted to clear and the ball struck Ian Loughnane and rolled back into the net.

Chances were few and far between after that and the game went off the boil.

Although Terry Nolan hit the post with a header and Cianzar cleared off the Broadmeadows goal line with Pace beaten.

In the second half, Broadmeadows was content to bottle up the game in midfield. It did so successfully even though five of its players were booked and Stuart Blair was sent off late in the game.

Selections

VICTORIAN LEAGUE

DIVISION ONE

Saturday: NORTH DANONEONG v Knox City, ALTONA GATE v Richmond, Sunbury United v Oakleigh (draw).

Sunday: Doncaster Rovers v Nunawading City (draw), BROADMEADOWS v Mornington, ALBION ROVERS v Doveton, Werribee v SM MORTON.

EDITION DIVISION TWO

Saturday: BURWOOD UNITED v Fitzroy City, BATMAN UNITED v Glenelg, EAST MELBOURNE UNITED, Ascot Vale, ORANGE v PORT UNITED, WHITEMOND UNITED v Parkmore, Meadow Park v SOUTH YARRA, SPRINGVALE v West Meadows.

DIVISION THREE

Saturday: Ferntree Gully v Moorabbin City (draw), Coburg v PORT MELBOURNE, CLIFTON v Geebung, MORNINGTON v Werribee, CARLTON CELL PARK, Prahran, Yarraville v ROSSANA, YALLOURN v Springvale United.

DIVISION FOUR

Saturday: CLARINDA v Hawthorn, Ballarat v KARLINGA UNITED, LANGLAND PARK v East Brunswick, BORONIA v Keysborough, West Brunswick v Lalor (draw).

DIVISION FIVE

Saturday: EPPING THISTLE v Canningwood City, NORTHERN SUBURBS, MELBOURNE MUSICAL INSTITUTE v Diamond Valley, ENDEAVOUR HILLS v Eagles United, MACCABI v Balwyn City.

DIVISION TWO

Sunday: La Trobe University v OLD SCOTCH, HAWTHORN UNITED v Concord, OAKLEIGH UNITED v East Richmond, North Melbourne v EAST ALTONA, YARRA UNITED v Waverley Wanderers.

DIVISION THREE

Sunday: INTERCITY v Mazzened College, RESERVOIR EAGLES v Ansett United, CAMBERWELL GRAMMAR v Old Paradians.



BOX HILL CAN DO IT!

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Box Hill's title tilt is laid fairly and squarely on the line this Sunday when the Hillmen tackle league leader Croydon at Wembley Park.

Box Hill goes into the game after receiving confirmation from coach Kent Webster who was bitterly disappointed with his team's display in its 1-1 draw with Western Suburbs last weekend.

"If I'd have allowed to make nine substitutions at half time I would have done so," said Webster.

"With the exception of the last 15 minutes, that was the worst Box Hill performance I've seen in my five years at the club."

But the Hillmen can take heart from the fact that Wembley Park has been a source of happy memories around for Croydon and in their earlier encounter at Croydon Park this year, Box Hill turned a 2-0 deficit with 18 minutes to go, into a 3-2 victory.

Webster is toying with the idea of using Andy McMillan at right back in place of Gary McPhee. Webster wants three big men at the back to cope with Croydon's Andy Humble, Graham French and Dave Brogan with a spare man to give the Box Hill defenders good cover.

Barry Burton returns from suspension and is certain to line-up in Box Hill's midfield so either Chris Taylor or Pedro Ramos will lose their spot in the starting line-up.

Croydon midfielder Matt McDonald will be sidelined for at least another fortnight due to medical ligament trouble.

McDonald has ignored a specialist's suggestion that he wear a surgical brace on his knee for six weeks and is determined to fight his way back into the side.

I'm backing the Hillmen to win this one," says Burton.

Ringwood Wilhelmina hopes to have midfielder Stuart Thomson back for Sunday's Jubilee Park clash with St Albans Dinamo.

Even so, Dinamo should win. Its players, especially the unheralded ones, are playing with a lot of spirit and even if Dinamo doesn't win the title this year, can look forward to better things to come.

Morell Falcone will have leading State League scorer Ian Stirton and his attacking partner Peter Verechin back

in the line-up which runs into revitalised Polonia at Raleigh Reserve on Sunday. Stirton and Verechin were unavailable for last weekend's 2-0 win over Fawkner due to suspension.

Stirton is likely to make way for them are David Wilson and Pat Bezzina.

Dennis McLeod returns from suspension and George Beattie and Bobby McGuinness could return from injury for Western suburbs' clash with Melbourne Hungaria at J.T. Gray Reserve on Saturday.

John Bird and Gerry Edmundson are struggling to overcome injuries which doesn't auger well for Melbourne's rapidly diminishing chances of avoiding relegation.

Suburbs' coach Jimmy Kondilis field a close-to-full-strength line-up. Suburbs will win.

Northcote no longer can be taken lightly but Fawkner must win to maintain its momentum toward a top four berth. I think it will.

Thomastown striker Andy Higgins was sent off in his team's 1-1 draw with Caulfield last Saturday. His place alongside George McMillan will be taken by Brian Flaherty for Sunday's Partridge Reserve clash with Springvale.

The Vales are going through a rough patch and can expect no more than a point here. But it must be said that they were unlucky to lose to Dinamo last weekend. The lead-up to the only goal of the match saw Dinamo right back Ante Kustura clearly push an opponent when

Thomastown had no option but to hit Caulfield on the break and these tactics worked very well with skipper George MacMillan in a lone striker's role getting through a ton of work.

Thomastown also used Nino Di Martino's ability with his long throws and well-taken corner kicks to constantly put the Caulfield defence under pressure.

It was from a corner in the 72nd minute that Thomastown gained the equaliser. Di Martino's corner was claimed by McMillan, allowing midfielder Brian Coyle to hammer his first time shot from the edge of the area high into the goal.

Chris Bambridge



• Chris Bambridge

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Leading scorers:
 17 — Stirton (Morwell)
 12 — French (Croydon), Dick (Pines)
 11 — Brogan (Croydon), Morovic (Dinamo)
 10 — Griffin (Box Hill)
 9 — Zemunik (Caulfield), Pianalto, Di Martino (Thomastown).

Call Jim McMinimee (059) 41 2777 B/H or (059) 71 2306 A/H

Caulfield will welcome back midfielder Panikos Tofaris, who was suspended last weekend.

Pines should win. If they don't, their slim chances of winning the title will disappear.

Here are this weekend's games with likely winners in capitals.

SATURDAY

MELBOURNE HUNGARIA V WESTERN SUBURBS at J.T. Gray Reserve, 3pm.
FRANKSTON PINES V CAULFIELD at Monterey Reserve, 3pm.

SUNDAY

POLOMIA V MORWELL FALCONS (draw) at Raleigh Reserve, 3pm.

FAWKNER V NORTHCOTE at Smith Reserve, 3pm.

BOX HILL V CROYDON at Wembley Park, 3pm.

THOMASTOWN V SPRINGVALE (draw) at Partridge Reserve, 3pm.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA V ST. ALBANS DINAMO at Jubilee Park, 3pm.

SUPER STORM CAN'T SAVE WILHELMINA

By MIKE LYNN

**Man of the match:
KEES STORM
(R. Wilhelmina)**

**Polonia 3
R. Wilhelmina 1**

Scorers: Marshall 3rd, R. Nelson 53rd, Trogric 76th (P); Mensink 20th (RW).
Venue: Raleigh Reserve, Sunday.

Polonia strengthened its bid to escape relegation by defeating Ringwood Wilhelmina in a very poor quality match at Raleigh Reserve.

The home team got away to a dream start when giant striker Alex Marshall scored in the 4th minute. The goal eventuated when a corner taken by Jan Wycslik was not cleared by the Ringwood defenders, allowing Ante Kotzamanidis to head the ball over the line.

Ringwood suffered a further setback in the same minute when defender Colin Weymss had to be replaced, because of injury, by Robert Lange. It is never easy for a substitute to come in to such situations but Lange had a fine game before also being injured and substituted late in the game.

Ringwood equalized in the 20th minute following good lead up play down the right wing between Man-of-the-match Kees Storm and fellow midfielder Harry Kondilis.

Storm's cross from the Polonia box-kick was headed against the post by Mark Bakker but striker Ricky Mensink fired home the rebound from three metres.

Storm played an unusual role as almost an old-fash-

ioned, deep-lying centre forward. Whatever lay you put on his role, he handled it very well especially as Polonia used the very talented Mirek Smolarek as his marker.

Storm's ability to hold possession and lay off nicely weighted passes, then support his strikers was one of the few highlights of the game.

Another highlight was the introduction of Polonia substitute Ricky Lipiarski in the second half. Polonia indeed is very fortunate to have so many quality players not currently in the starting line-up. Lipiarski certainly raised the quality of his team's performance. His ability to move the ball and play simple passes enabled him, Gerry Bennett and Rob Nelson to totally dominate the last half hour of play.

Polonia took the lead in the 53rd minute from another corner. Again, Wycslik's corner was missed by the Ringwood defence allowing Nelson the opportunity to head home easily from three metres.

The game was put beyond Ringwood when striker Goran Trogric headed home a Lipiarski right wing cross in the 76th minute following a series of good interpassing involving Nelson, Bennett and Lipiarski.

Polonia has a wealth of experience and quality players at its disposal and now that it is edging clear of the bottom two places on the ladder perhaps it might begin to play the kind of delightful soccer that it surely is capable of.

More controversy for Bambridge

By MIKE LYNN

**CAULFIELD CITY 1
THOMASTOWN 1**

Scorers: Zemunik pen. 60th (C); Coyle 72nd (T).
Venue: Princes Park, Saturday.

The most influential person in this match was referee Chris Bambridge who appears of late to be constantly involved in controversial incidents.

In the first minute Bambridge awarded Thomastown a penalty which was converted by Zemunik and in the 67th minute he failed to give Thomastown a penalty when skipper George McMillan clearly was pushed in the back by Caulfield stopper Dan Brooks.

Over the last few years

Bambridge has proven his ability as one of Australia's finest referees but, possibly due to the controversy he was shrouded in during the recent World Cup finals, it appears that he is constantly putting himself on trial. I think Bambridge should take a step back and reconsider what his position is during a game, which,

was converted by Zemunik and in the 67th minute he failed to give Thomastown a penalty when skipper George McMillan clearly was pushed in the back by Caulfield stopper Dan Brooks.

In the 29th minute, a Zemunik header from six metres was parried by Raponi but Caulfield's best two opportunities came late in the game.

In the 74th minute, Tiger Ammanidis was put in the clear by midfielder Kenny Taylor but his shot from just inside the penalty area struck the post and was cleared off the line by Thomastown sweep-

er Tony Cozentino.

In the 85th minute, Zemunik raced onto a long through pass and chipped the ball over Raponi only for Sabinidis to shoot over the bar with the goal at his mercy.

Thomastown had no option but to hit Caulfield on the break and these tactics worked very well with skipper George MacMillan in a lone striker's role getting through a ton of work.

Thomastown also used Nino Di Martino's ability with his long throws and well-taken corner kicks to constantly put the Caulfield defence under pressure.

It was from a corner in the 72nd minute that Thomastown gained the equaliser. Di Martino's corner was claimed by McMillan, allowing midfielder Brian Coyle to hammer his first time shot from the edge of the area high into the goal.

Chris Bambridge



• Chris Bambridge

Buffalo State League Standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
CROYDON	12	4	4	44	24	28
ST. ALB. DINAMO	9	8	4	33	21	26
SPRINGVALE	10	6	5	23	16	26
BOX HILL	8	9	4	32	19	25
F'ston Pines	8	7	5	27	20	23
Fawknar	10	2	9	36	32	22
M'well Falcons	8	5	8	30	31	21
West. Subs.	6	7	8	22	23	19
Thomastown	8	3	10	30	36	18
Caulfield City	6	6	8	30	35	18
Northcote City	6	6	8	30	25	14
Polonia	4	6	11	18	25	14
Wilhelmina	4	6	11	16	43	14
Melb.-Hungaria	2	8	11	16	36	12

MORWELL FALCONS 2 (Bezzina 25th, T. van Baar 71st) FAWKNAR 0 at North Crimigan Reserve, Saturday.

MORWELL FALCONS: Prezioso 8 — Birnham 9, Bruns 8, D. Wilson 7, T. van Baar 7, O'Callaghan 7, E. Cassar 8 — Coyle 7, Croke 7, Toal 7, Hackett 80th. Coach: Davo O'Connor.

FAWKNER: R. Wilson 6 — Walsh 7, Fatore 6, Schipani 6, Bordignon 7 — Nixon 6, Mancinelli 6, Flavel 5 (sent off 43rd), Di Cecco 6 — Coyle 6 — Tuffield 6. Coach: Peter Boyle.

Best three for Ametco award: 3. Birmingham (MF), 2. Bruns (MF), 1. A. Casoni (MF).

NORTCOTE 4 (Bekkaris 47th, Toro 53rd, P. Constantinos 59th, 82nd) MELBOURNE HUNGARIA 1 (Wallace 35th) at John Cain Reserve, Saturday.

NORTCOTE: Turjuk 5 — Patriotic 3; Bozikis 4; Kourmenos 4, J. Constantinos 4 — Bekkaris 5, Toro 5; Gammopoulous 4 — P. Constantinos 4 — Bozikis 5 — Bozikis 6; Harris 75th; Taylor 6; Theodorou 6 (Argros 85th) — Zemunik 5, Sahinidis 6. Coach: Takis Svingos.

MELBOURNE HUNGARIA: Kotsiris 4 — Muller 3; Morrey 5 (Heavy 77th); Reynolds 3 (Debono 75th); Sutherland 3 — Tambazis 4; Wallace 5 — Theodoropoulos 4; Bekkaris 4; Roberts 3. Coach: Ian McCarthy.

Best three for Ametco award: 3. Bekkaris (N), 2. Wallace (MF).

CAULFIELD 1 (Zemunik penalty 60th) THOMASTOWN 1 (Coyle 72nd) at Princes Park, Saturday.

CAULFIELD: Leftheris 6 — Antonopoulos 6; Bitonis 5, Brooks 6, Koulos 7, Tsitsas 6 — Filippou 6; Amanatidis 6; Harris 75th; Taylor 6; Theodorou 6 (Argros 85th) — Zemunik 5, Sahinidis 6. Coach: Takis Svingos.

THOMASTOWN: Raponi 6 — Rainey 6, Arcoraci 8; Cosimino 6; Pianalto 6 — Cafora 6 (Di Marzio 7; Hackett 88th); Ker 6; Coyle 6 — McMillan 7 (inj. Flaherty 80th); Higgins (sent off 8th). Coach: Mike Lynn.

Best three for Ametco award: 3. Arcoraci (T), 2. McMillan (T), 1. Di Marzio (T).

SPRINGVALE 0 ST. ALBANS DINAMO 1 (Colina 65th) at Ross Reserve, Sunday.

SPRINGVALE: Perry Mur 6 — Bentley 6, Adams 7, Bissinger 7.



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STANDINGS

Preston League Senior 'A'

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Grasshoppers	2	0	0	35	0	6
Preston Pythons	2	0	0	12	8	6
Euronations	1	0	1	28	8	4
Moreland	1	0	0	7	5	3
Mutundies Revenge	0	0	2	0	45	2
Goodonya	0	0	1	3	4	1
Nacionals	0	0	1	5	7	1
Ugly Juventus	0	0	1	0	13	1

Preston League Young 'A'

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
United Nations	2	0	0	20	5	6
Olympic	1	0	1	13	10	4
Makedonian Raiders	1	0	0	12	1	3
Gladstone Raiders	0	0	0	5	0	3
Zaggers	1	0	0	4	1	3
Red Star	0	0	2	3	12	2
Makedonian Elim	0	0	2	1	24	2
Athens Strikers	0	0	1	0	5	1

Senior top scorers: 15 — John Metaxas (Grass); 14 — Terry Frangakis (Euro), 7 — Silvio Sella (Grass).

Youth top scorers: 10 — Jim Georgarakis (UN); 7 — Frank Konstantellos (UN); 6 — Chris Archimandritis (Oly), Mazda Tosevski (M.R.).

Donvale Group One

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Smooth Operators	9	0	0	99	19	27
Kaiser Chels	7	0	2	54	32	23
Canons	6	2	1	49	29	23
Riviera	6	1	2	71	38	22
Shifters	5	0	4	51	53	19
Red Devils	3	1	5	45	60	16
Calyxpsos	3	0	6	41	59	15
Bonds	2	0	7	32	72	13
Nike	1	0	8	33	62	11
Disciples	1	0	8	27	80	11

Donvale Group Two

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Carcioffi Rangers	5	1	0	44	12	17
Zlatna Luka	5	0	1	42	18	16
White Peles	4	1	1	30	15	15
Sweatogs	4	0	2	26	19	14
Gippsland Ghosts	3	0	3	33	25	12
Raiders	3	0	3	28	29	12
Ethnic United	2	0	4	17	27	9
Master Blaster	1	0	4	20	33	7
Azzuri	0	1	5	18	36	7
Peperoncini	0	1	4	10	44	2

Group top scorers: 37 — John Michelachis (SO); 36 — Frank Tkalcic (R); 33 — Spiro Alatsas (Can); 27 — Maurice Bisetto (SO).

Group top scorers: 23 — Ante Pericic (ZL); 21 — Silvio Sella (CH); 13 — Anthony Carafa (GG).

Thomastown League

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Celtics	3	0	0	46	4	9
Manchester Excited	3	0	0	26	4	9
Brilliant Barbans	3	0	0	26	6	9
Furious Five	3	0	0	25	5	9
Internazionale	2	0	1	17	7	7
Mazraci	1	0	1	6	18	4
Shamrocks	0	0	3	6	15	3
Gladialors	0	0	3	2	27	3
Wanderers	0	0	3	8	38	3
Gippstars	0	0	3	6	36	3
Vasco de Gama	0	0	1	2	7	1

Thomastown top scorers: 23 — John Metaxas (C); 12 — Peter Paspalis (C), P. Belegriinos (B.B.); 11 — George Thalassinos (M.E.).

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(Wed)

PRESTON TECH GYM
Cramer St, Preston
(Fri)

The Donvale centre's Friday night competition kicks off soon and there still are vacancies for a few teams. But you'll have to be quick. Phone Dean Poropat for further details on 480 3963.

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★ Mini Tournament within the clinic

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PERICIC POUNCES!

The second half began with more fire from Sella who managed another two goals, but then Tochetto took over and notched a hat-trick followed by a goal from Terzini.

The Sweatogs had a good player in Kotos who tried all his might to keep the powerful Carcioffi Rangers from scoring, but unfortunately it

was not to be. The goals for Sweatogs came from Zachariou in the first half and Kots in the second.

Zlatna Luka 8
Gipps. Ghosts 3

Ante Pericic had a field day against the Ghosts, scoring seven goals.

THREE-GOAL ARCHIMANDRITIS

Olympic outplayed its opponent in the Preston Youth League and set up victory in the first half by leading 6-1.

Chris Archimandritis had scored a hat-trick and then added Olympic's last two goals in the second half.

Peter Luka added two goals for the Mutundies which was very impressive on the night.

Red Star fought hard with Shane Nasteksi and Tony Stojcavski doing well.

United Nations 12
Mak. Eliminators 0

United Nations downed the Makedonian boys quite easily with the Eliminators failing to score.

Jim Georgarakis scored a whopping seven goals for the match and Frank Konstantellos notched further three.

The whole of the United Nations team played well with Nick Andonovski doing well for the Makedonian Eliminators.

Moreland 7
Nacionals 5

Moreland playing in their

first game in the Preston Senior League, came from behind to beat Nacionals 7-5.

After trailing 3-1 at half time, Moreland equalised with two quick goals before it fell behind again.

Both teams put on an excellent match but the newcomers came out with the points.

Campbell scored five of Moreland's goals and was very impressive. Alex Sismanis and Lou Tsigaris scored the Nacionals' goals and were their team's best players.

Grasshoppers 22
Mut. Revenge 0

The Grasshoppers completely destroyed the Mutundies who played the whole game with a man short.

Silvio Sella played his first game for the Grasshoppers and scored nine goals. The other major goalscorer was big Aki Kotzmanis who bagged four goals.

The Grasshoppers again wasted a lot of opportunities and one wonders what the score might have been had they been more controlled in front of goal.

The Euronations played well but were beaten by a better team on the night.

hat-trick and proved to be its most dangerous player and Peter Rossi also played extremely well.

If Inter can concentrate for the whole game it might prove a handful for the top sides.

Furious Five 7
Shamrocks 3

The lads from Ireland just failed to post their first win of the season but it is not too far away.

The Furious Five took a good lead at half time with the score at 5-1. They clearly were outplaying the Shamrocks.

The second half was a different story with the Shamrocks fighting back and scoring two quick goals to be within striking distance.

This was mainly due to John Keoghanis's powerful display by scoring all his team's goals and doing well around the court.

The Shamrocks missed a lot of chances but in the end, the Furious Five settled down and scored two goals to put the game beyond their opponents reach.

Les Stilidis was very sharp up front for Furious Five while Muzi Eideh and Mohammed Saleh also did well.

The game was in Luka's control from the start and its accuracy in shot and hunger to score were unstoppable.

At half time Zlatna Luka led 3-0 which gave the Ghosts something to think about during the break.

The second half saw the Ghosts reply with three goals but unfortunately for them Pericic also scored another five and Zlatna Luka took the points.

The slump in form of the Ghosts can be attributed to the fact that two of their players are out suspended and a stand-in goalie was introduced for the match.

Preston Pythons 8
Euronations 5

What a game!

Last season's champion team was downed by this season's exciting newcomer — the Preston Pythons.

Euronations trailed 2-0 but scored two quick goals to go into the break deadlocked at 2-2.

The Pythons again hit the lead before Fabio Gauci arrived for the Euronations to score three goals.

It was almost a match-winning effort by the Pythons' steady and took out this game which had the crowd on its feet throughout the second half.

Virgilio Caruollo played well for the Pythons along with Chicco Tilmas and Jose Ribiero also showed their sharpness and skill.

The Euronations played well but were beaten by a better team on the night.

White Peles 10

Peperoncini 2

The White Peles dominated Peperoncini on an onslaught.

Mainenti played another brilliant game giving his side four goals while both Peles and Bruno Sabidussi.

The Peles always had a fresh man on the field and so kept the momentum going at all times.

Peperoncini never appeared to get going although it did manage to score a goal in each half.

The Peles, with new recruit Mainenti, are a force to be reckoned with.

Ethnic United 7

Master Blasters 5

Ethnic United notched its second win for the season.

The team can put this victory down to the fact that it had Dean Poropat in goal who, although not fully fit, was good enough to hold out Master Blasters.

Master Blasters were down 3-2 at half time and United kept the pressure on to score four goals in the second half to 3-6. United went on to score two quick goals to take the points.

Both teams played well in the first half and at half time the score was 3-3, but the more aggressive Calypso kept the battle going in the second half with two valuable goals to take the points.

Master Blasters were down 3-2 at half time and United kept the pressure on to score four goals in the second half to 3-6. United went on to score two quick goals to take the points.

The Pythons again hit the lead before Fabio Gauci arrived for the Euronations to score three goals.

It was almost a match-winning effort by the Pythons' steady and took out this game which had the crowd on its feet throughout the second half.

Virgilio Caruollo played well for the Pythons along with Chicco Tilmas and Jose Ribiero also showed their sharpness and skill.

The Euronations played well but were beaten by a better team on the night.

NAME: Frank Marchesani.

AGE: 26.

CURRENT TEAM: Gippsland Ghosts.

CAR: Hot Commodore SS.

HOBBIES: Tennis, Golf, Waterskiing.

REP HONORS: Victorian Amateur team 1979.

BIGGEST INFLUENCE: David Parkin, Steve Gough.

GREATEST MOMENT: Running out with the Carlton premiership team on Grand Final Day, 1982.

FAVOURITE SHOWS: Rambo 1 & 2, Miami Vice.

FAVOURITE ACTOR: Jerry Lewis.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Rod Stewart, Police.

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Maradona, Causio, Jimmy Connors.

SUPERSTITIONS: Umpires.

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FRATERNITY CLUB

Genc or Wellbourne for under-21 honor?

Aytec Genc (pictured) of Uruguayan Auburn and Anthony Wellbourne of Wollongong Macedonia are the front runners in the Under 21 Player of the Year Award sponsored by the Fraternity Club of Fairy Meadow.

At this stage, Wellbourne is in front but Genc is within striking distance.

Most State League coaches have been full of praise for the two youngsters and the last four rounds will be nail biting for them as much as for their respective sides which are vying for a place in the top six.

Four of Rockdale Ilinden's stars, from left: Zlatko Nastevski, Vlado Tortelevski, Vince Nasostki and Jimmy Ristevski.



MANLY, MELITA, SUTHERLAND OR KU-RING-GAI?

With four rounds left in the Skypak State League, the race for the minor Premiership still is wide open and four teams are within striking distance — Manly, Melita, Sutherland and Kuring-gai.

For two of the contenders 1-1 Manly Warringah and Ku-ring-gai 1-1 this Sunday's clash is all-important. North Sydney's best performed club this season is Manly Warringah, but Ku-ring-gai would dearly love to grab that title at Parklands.

Manly's form is far from effective and most of its goals have come from midfield with Marshall scoring six, Campbell three and Robbie Stuart three. Gary Van Egmond has scored three goals from fullback, while Don Allan with four and Doug McIntosh with two are the best performed among the Manly striking force.

So it will be a case of stopping Manly's midfield to dull the Sea Eagles' attacking bite. John Dick, Robin and Dean will have an easier task in coping with Bass and Nile but Peter Tkachuk could have a big day in this match with his powerful shooting.

It looks like a draw, but if anyone has an edge it is Manly.

Melita will have it all its own way at Corrimal despite the threat from Fairy Meadow.

Farnsworth is in fine form as is Ray Faruggia.

Melita Eagles have one of the best defences in the league and their forwards have rattled in a lot of goals so far. It is going to be an uphill battle for Meadow with nothing short of a convincing victory for Melita expected at Corrimal.

Sutherland is set to strike at Knight Park against Avala. The corresponding first round fixture went to Avala 1-0.

Avala has fallen on lean times since and is in all sorts of strife. Filipovic, Blazic, Thurlow, Brown and Jeffery would command respect from any team in the league under normal circumstances, but since round 10 Avala has registered only one win, losing seven matches in that period. That fact coupled with the enthusiasm of the young Sutherland team could provide the base for another Avala debacle.

on the other hand, has its own reputation to worry about or and a lack of goals.



NSW State League with ALEX VESIC

TNT SKYPAK
THE WORLD WIDE COURIERS

NSW SKYPACK STATE LEAGUE PROGRAMME OF MATCHES

SKYPACK STATE LEAGUE OF N.S.W.

STATE LEAGUE (Round 20, Sunday 17.8.86)

FAIRY MEADOW — MELITA EAGLES, Corrimal Memorial Park.
WARR. FRESHWATER — URUGUAYAN, Narrabeen Fitness Camp.
KU-RING-GAI — MANLY WARRINGAH, Parklands
AVALA — SUTHERLAND, Knights Park
POLONIA — ROCKDALE ILINDEN, Chopin Park
WOLL MACEDONIA — PENRITH CITY, Berkeley Sports Ground

DIVISION II, Saturday 16.8.86

NTH BANKSTOWN — KINGSFORD, Potts Park
BLACKTOWN UTD — DEE WHY, Francis Park

Sunday, 17.8.86

GLADESVILLE — CANTERBURY, Pioneer Park
LEBANON — QUEENS PARK, Jensen Oval

YUGAL — BATHURST, Bick Oval
CAMPBELLTOWN — ARTARMON, Lynwood Park

DIVISION III, Saturday, 16.8.86

ROOTY HILL — NTH RYDE RSL, Cawarra Park
WEST UTD — BONDI MARINE, Harold Read Reserve
GRANVILLE CHILE — MOOREBANK, Garside Park

Sunday, 17.8.86

PORT HACKING — CAMPBELLTOWN, Seymour Shaw Park
BAULKHAM HILLS — MT DRAUITT, Ted Horwood Reserve
KING TOMISLAV — UNI OF NSW, Croatian Sports Centre

STATE LEAGUE, Round 21, Sunday 24.8.86

MELITA EAGLES — PENRITH CITY, Melita Stadium
URUGUAYAN — FAIRY MEADOW, Mona Park
MANLY WARRINGAH — Warr. FRESHWATER, Cromer Park
KU-RING-GAI — SUTHERLAND, Parklands
ROCK. ILINDEN — AVALA, Hurstville Oval
PENRITH CITY — POLONIA, Cook Park

DIVISION II, Saturday, 23.8.86

CANTERBURY — CAMPBELLTOWN, Bick Oval
KINGSFORD — GLADESVILLE, Turruwulli
DEE WHY — YUGAL, Dee Why Oval

Sunday, 24.8.86

LEBANON — NTH BANKSTOWN, Jensen Oval
BATHURST — QUEENS PARK, Proctor Park
ARTARMON — BLACKTOWN, Artarmon Reserve

DIVISION III, Saturday, 23.8.86

BONDI MARINE — ROOTY HILL, Waverley Oval
MOOREBANK — WEST UNITED, Hammondville
UNI OF NSW — GRANVILLE CHILE, Little Bay Oval

Sunday, 24.8.86

CAMPBELLTOWN — KING TOMISLAV, Bensley Rd.
MT DRAUITT — PORT HACKING, Popondetta Park
NTH RYDE — BAULKHAM HILLS, Magdalena Park

Air Malta player of the year award

No further list of leading players will be published. The winner will be announced at the "Soccer Action" Player of the Year dinner to be held at the Fraternity Club in Fairy Meadow on October 11.

There were no State League games last weekend due to the international between Australia and Czechoslovakia.

Skypak State League standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MANLY WARRINGAH ..	9	7	2	23	9	25
MELITA EAGLES	8	7	3	31	11	23
SUTHERLAND	9	4	5	21	14	22
KU-RING-GAI	7	8	3	20	14	22
Rockdale Ilinden	8	4	6	30	21	20
Woll. Macedonia	6	8	4	12	11	20
Freshwater	7	3	8	29	31	17
Uruguayan	4	9	5	14	18	17
Polonia	5	6	7	21	28	16
Avala	5	4	9	17	28	14
Penrith City	6	2	10	26	41	14
Fairy Meadow	2	2	14	17	35	6

Second Division standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
YUGAL	13	2	3	44	20	28
GLADESVILLE	12	2	3	40	14	27
KINGSFORD	12	2	4	33	18	26
NTH BANKSTOWN	10	2	6	29	14	22
BLACKTOWN UTD	7	5	6	19	15	19
Dee Why	7	5	6	12	19	19
Bathurst	5	6	7	18	19	16
Lebanon	5	5	8	17	27	15
Campbelltown	4	6	8	20	23	14
Queens Park	6	11	11	24	34	13
Artarmon	3	6	9	14	29	12
Canterbury	2	11	5	10	49	5

Third Division results: Bondi Marine — Granville Chile 2-2. All other matches cancelled.

Third Division standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
GRANVILLE CHILE	11	7	1	40	20	29
BONDI MARINE	9	8	2	33	20	26
ROOTY HILL	9	7	2	34	13	25
WEST UNITED	10	1	7	23	24	21
Campbelltown	8	4	5	24	20	20
MI Drift	8	3	7	26	16	19
Baulkham Hills	7	4	7	21	21	18
Port Hacking	5	4	9	29	36	14
Uni of NSW	5	3	10	29	36	13
Moorebank	5	3	10	17	26	13
King Tomislav	1	2	14	56	4	5

At Narrabeen it will be yet another game where the points count "double". Should Freshwater beat Uruguay then all its purchases for the year will be justified. Should Uruguay win it will be difficult to explain many of the moves made by Freshwater. Burke, Driene, Berry, the Bottalico brothers, Sperranza, Corrigan and Sterrey came to Freshwater this year with high hopes but so far have failed to leave up to expectations. Uruguay,

AMAT TWO

Waverley Wands 10 4 2 52 23 24
Diggers Rest 11 2 3 42 21 24
La Trobe Uni 9 2 4 48 25 20
Hawthorn Utd 9 1 4 50 17 19
East Albion 5 3 6 37 19 3
Concord 6 2 8 28 33 14
East Richmond 7 0 8 41 49 4
Yarra United 5 2 9 38 42 12
Old Scotch 4 2 10 28 35 8
Oakleigh Utd 0 2 12 12 68 2
Nth Melbourne RESERVES

Burwick CY A' 5 0 3 23 14 10
Dingley 4 0 5 31 19 9
Sandringham 4 0 5 31 19 14
Springvale Utd 2 0 6 5 40 4
Cranbourne 1 0 9 8 60 2

PENINSULA B

Parkmore 9 2 0 48 15 20
North Dandenong 5 4 1 38 14 9
Lyndale 4 5 2 28 11 13
St. Patricks 3 2 3 21 11 8
Haslings 0 2 6 25 23 5
Rosebud 0 2 6 4 52 2
Sth. S. Vale 'B' 0 1 9 9 40 1

WESTERN

Sunshine Hts A 11 2 0 80 10 24
North Geelong 10 2 1 68 6 22
Sth. Gully A 1 0 9 18 11 10
Altona City 8 0 5 57 13 16
Sunshine Hts B 5 3 5 28 27 13
Keilor 5 3 5 28 27 13
Maribyrnong Utd 0 1 10 13 44 5
Vicville 0 1 10 11 44 4
Western Suburbs 0 1 11 11 37 0

CENTRAL/PEN

Hawthorn 5 1 0 23 3 11
Langwarrin 5 1 0 15 11 10
Altona City 4 0 2 72 27 5
Beasomars 3 2 0 12 12 9
Baxter's 3 2 0 23 21 8
Maccabi 0 1 6 4 24 5
Skye Rovers 0 1 7 6 88 1

EASTERN A

Springvale CY A' 5 0 3 27 18 9
Mornington 'A' 5 0 3 27 18 9
Mornington 'B' 0 0 11 5 65 0

NORTHERN A

Laker 9 3 1 55 21 21
Heidelberg Utd 10 0 2 75 14 20
Northcote City 9 2 2 49 18 20
BU. Juventus A 9 2 0 49 8 20
Menzel Creative 3 2 0 12 12 5
Mornington 'B' 0 0 11 5 65 0

NORTHERN B

Preston 'B' 10 0 1 34 7 22
Thomastown 10 0 1 44 9 21
Bulleen 10 0 1 34 9 20
Broadmeadows 6 2 0 18 11 10
Laker Mews 5 3 2 23 18 13
Mornington 'B' 0 0 11 5 65 0

EASTERN C

Farnell Hill 7 1 0 32 12 11
Mornington 'A' 5 0 3 27 18 9
Mornington 'B' 0 0 11 5 65 0

RICOH S/L

Preston 'A' 3 2 0 24 14 17
Sth. S. Vale 'B' 3 2 0 24 14 17
Mornington 'A' 5 0 3 27 18 9

NTH WEST A

Sunshine Hts A 8 2 2 39 17 18
BU. Juventus A 8 2 2 39 17 18
Croydon City A 5 0 3 27 18 9
Mornington 'B' 0 0 11 5 65 0

NTH WEST B

Farnell Hill 9 2 0 33 16 8
Mornington 'B' 9 2 0 33 16 8

EASTERN B

BU. Juventus A 10 0 0 39 7 20
Mornington 'B' 10 0 0 39 7 20
Mornington 'A' 5 0 3 27 18 9
Mornington 'B' 0 0 11 5 65 0

NTH WEST C

BU. Juventus A 10 0 0 39 7 20
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EASTERN C

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RICOH S/L

Preston 'A' 6 5 2 29 16 7
Mornington 'B' 6 5 2 29 16 7
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NTH WEST A

Sunshine Hts A 7 1 0 41 12 20
BU. Juventus A 7 1 0 41 12 20
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NTH WEST B

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BU. Juventus A 7 1 0 41 12

Round 18—16/17 August

SOUTHERN DIVISION

H'berg Alexander vs Brunswick Juventus

Olympic Village SUNDAY 3pm
Youth Game: Heidelberg vs Juventus 12.45pm



Mehmet Durakovic



Zoran Nikitovic

Footscray JUST vs Green Gully

Schintler Reserve SUNDAY 3pm
Youth Game: JUST vs Green Gully 12.45pm



Russell Stewart

Brisbane Lions vs Adelaide Hellas

Richlands SUNDAY 1pm
Youth Game: Fawkner vs Brighton 12.45pm



Sergio Meita

Adelaide Juventus vs Brisbane City

Olympic Sports Field 2.30pm
Youth Game: Nunawading vs Frankston Pines 12.45pm



Tyrone James

Sth Melb Hellas vs George Cross

Middle Park SUNDAY 3pm
Youth Game: Hellas vs George Cross 12.45pm



Sean Lane

Melbourne Croatia vs Preston Makedonia

Olympic Park No. 1 SUNDAY 3pm
Youth Game: Croatia vs Makedonia 12.45pm

NORTHERN DIVISION

Newcastle Rosebud vs Marconi
 Adamstown Oval SATURDAY 7pm

Sydney Croatia vs Wollongong
 Croatian Sports Centre SUNDAY 3pm

St George vs Blacktown
 St George Stadium SUNDAY 1pm

APIA vs Canberra Olympians
 Lambert Park SUNDAY 3pm

Inter Monaro vs Canterbury
 Seiffert Stadium SUNDAY 3pm

Sydney Olympic vs Sydney City
 St George Stadium SUNDAY 3pm

Ansett.

NBNDA

POWER

mitre